PLUTO
URASAWA X TEZUKA
A NEW VISION BASED ON ASTRO BOY – 'THE GREATEST ROBOT ON EARTH'
BY NAOKI URASAWA AND OSAMU TEZUKA
CO-AUTHORED WITH TAKASHI NAGASAKI
SUPERVISED BY MACOTO TEZKA
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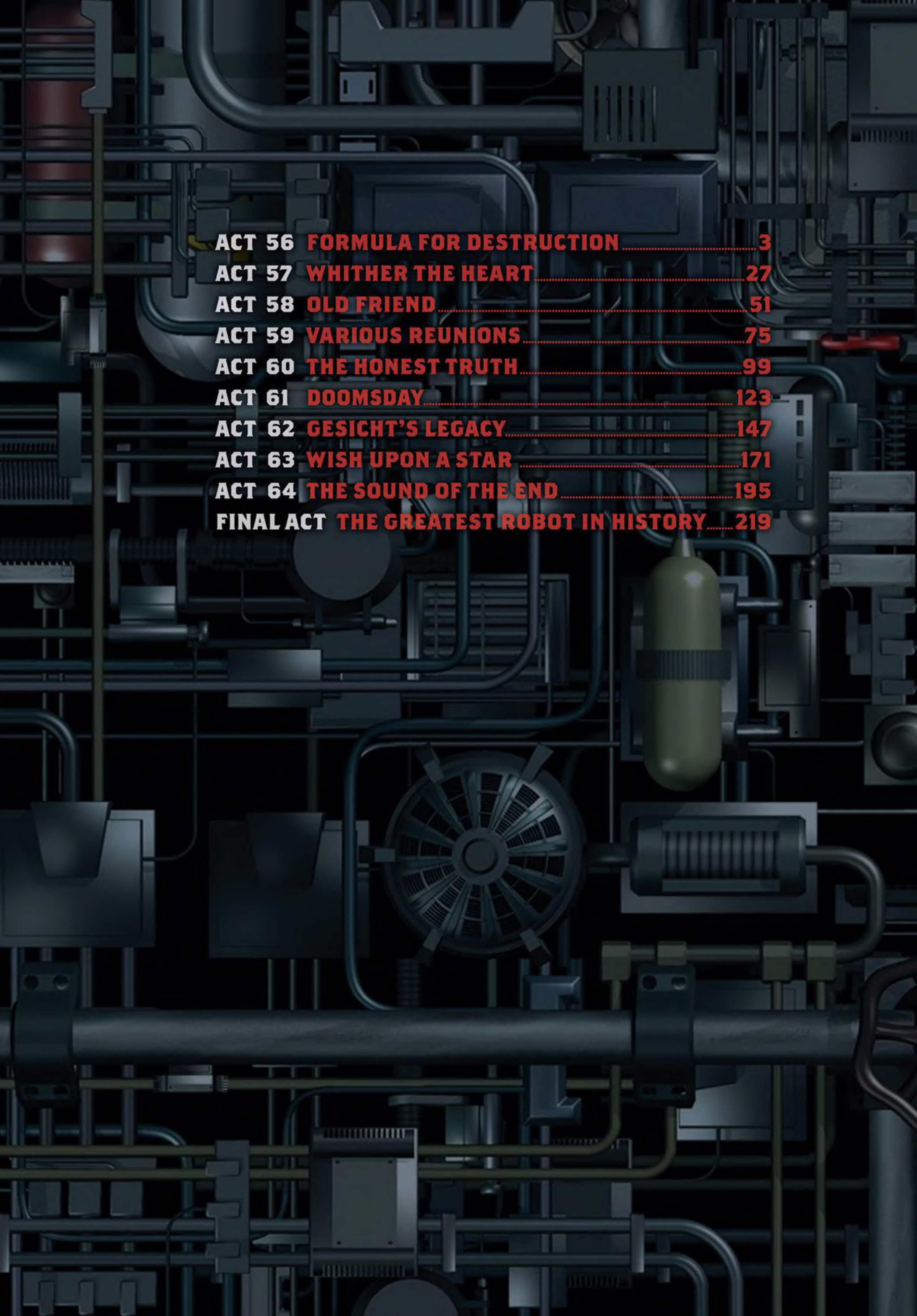

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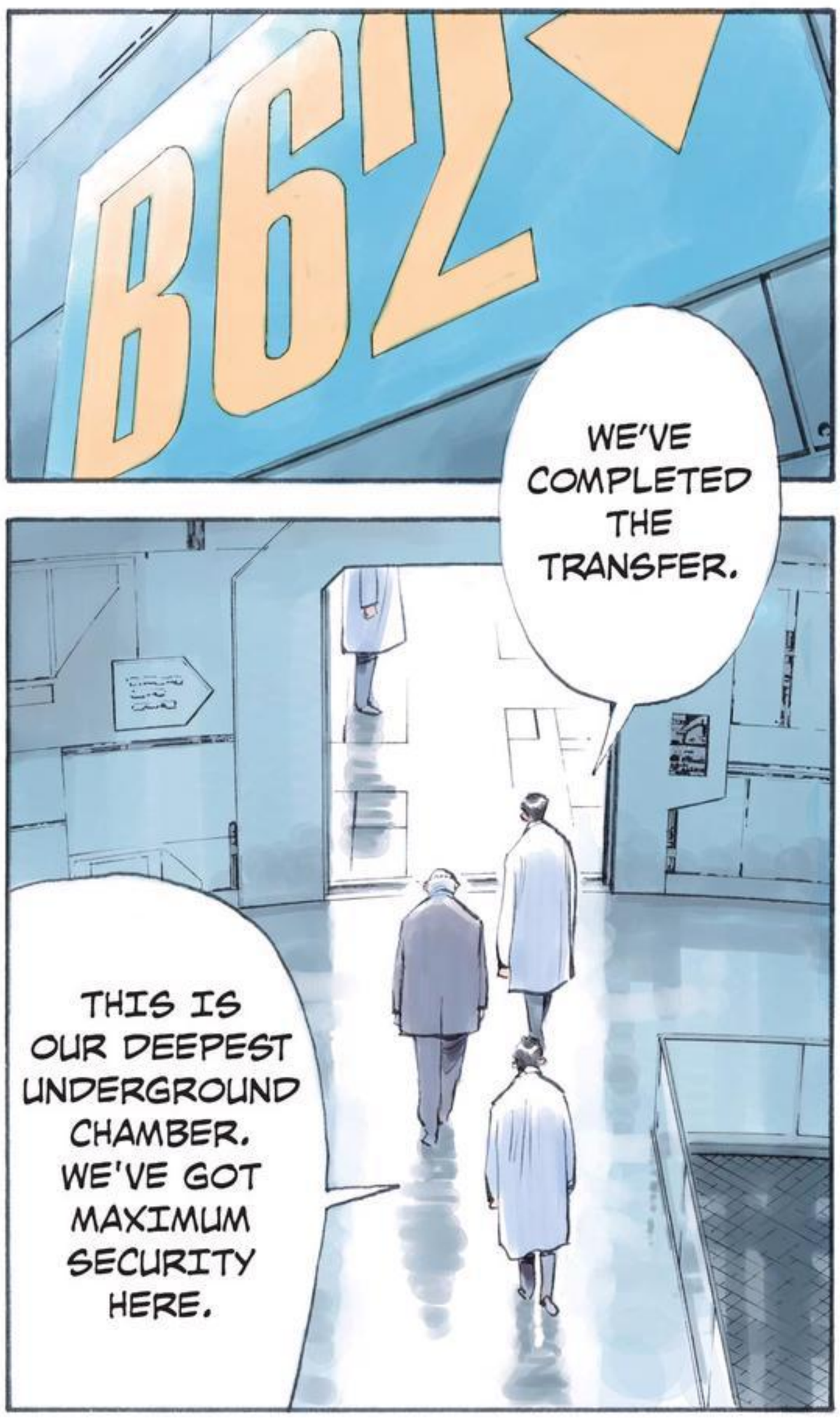
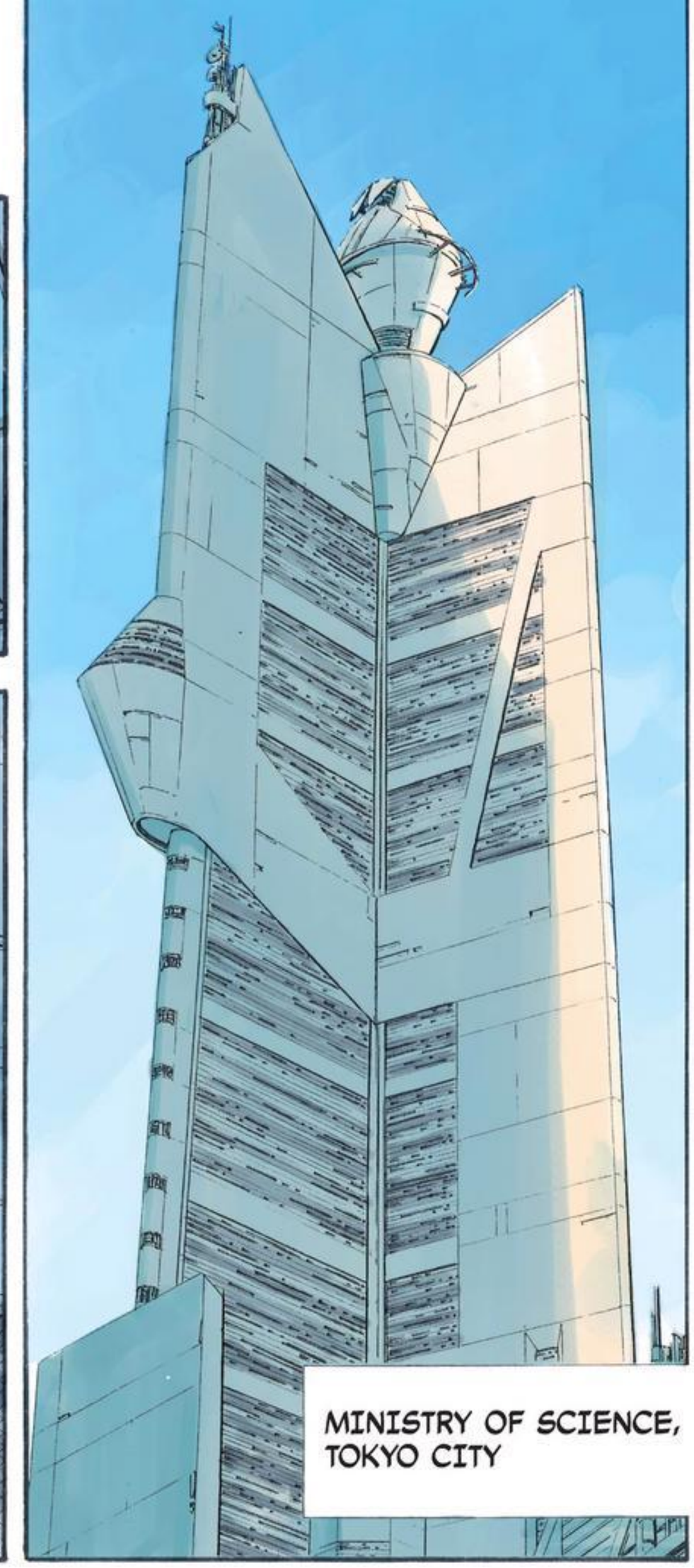
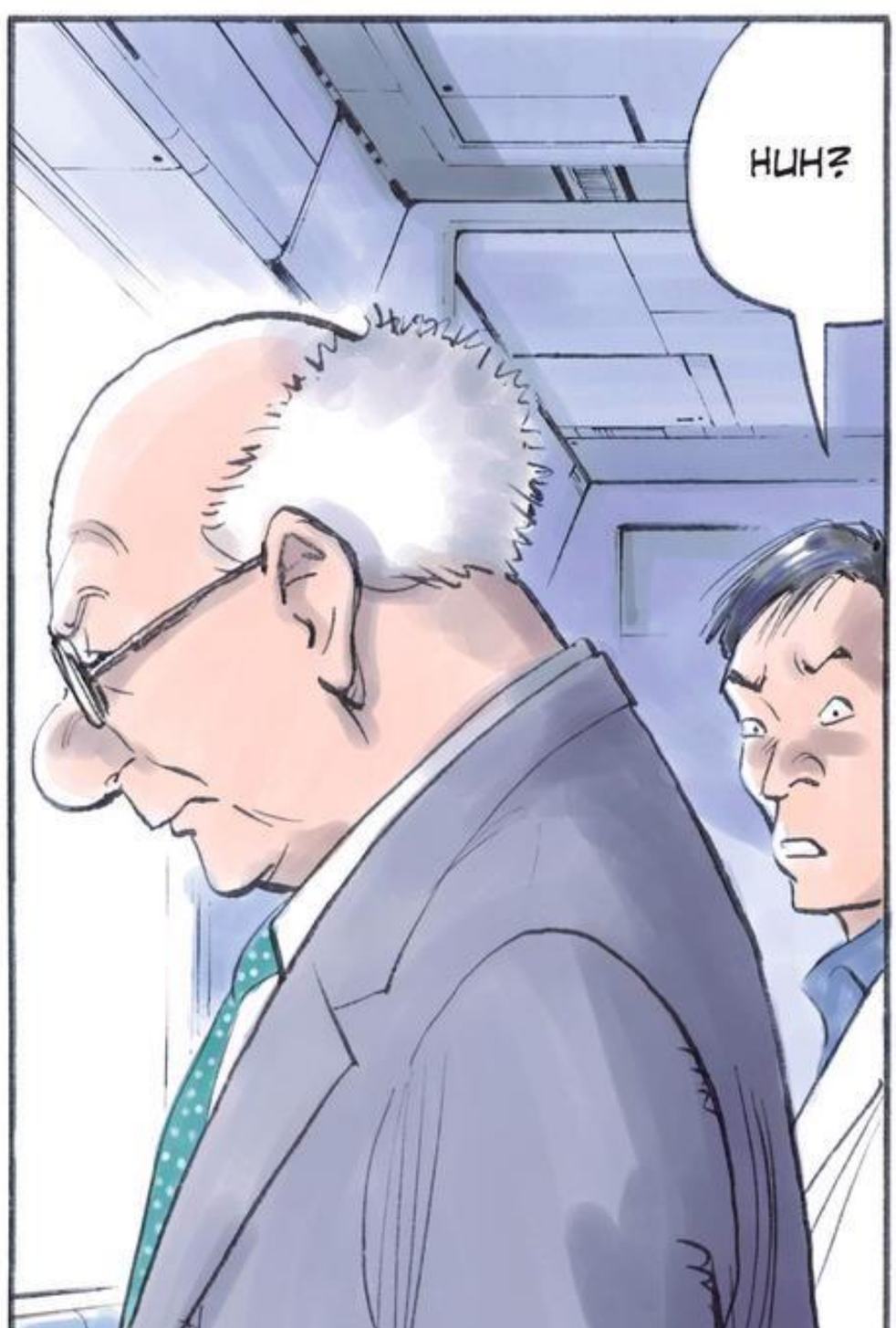
Act 56 FORMULA FOR DESTRUCTION

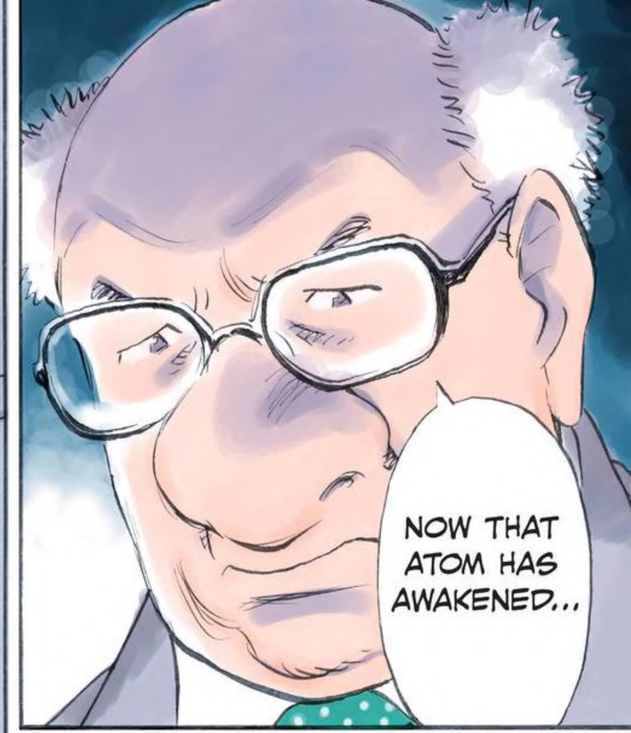


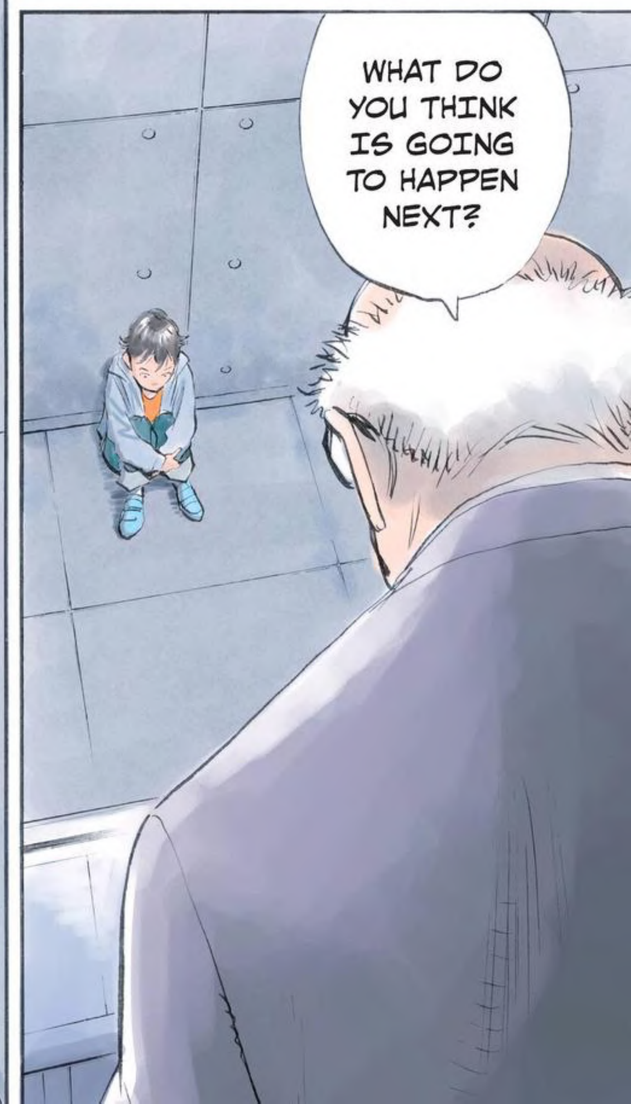


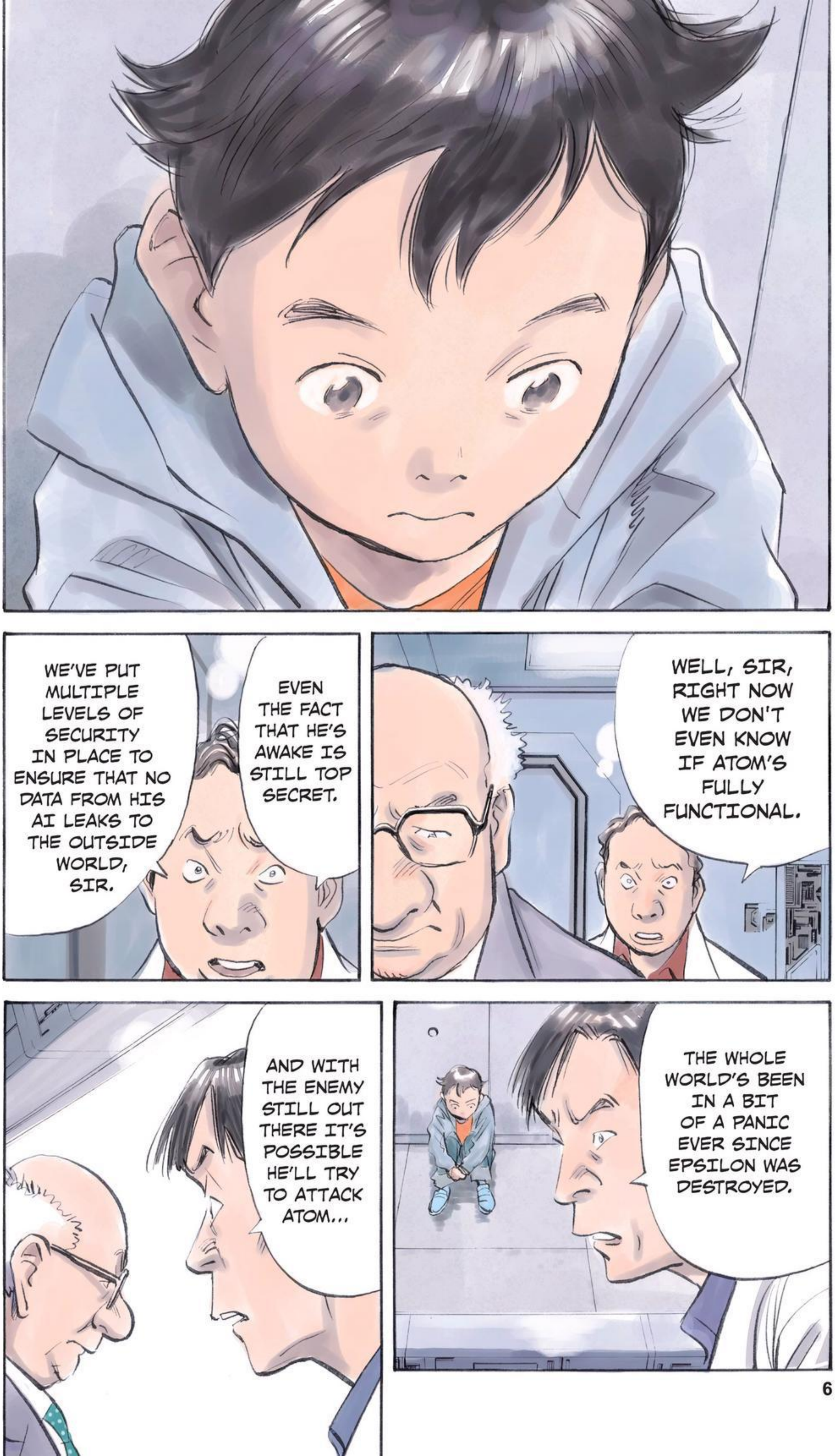


Act 56

FORMULA FOR DESTRUCTION





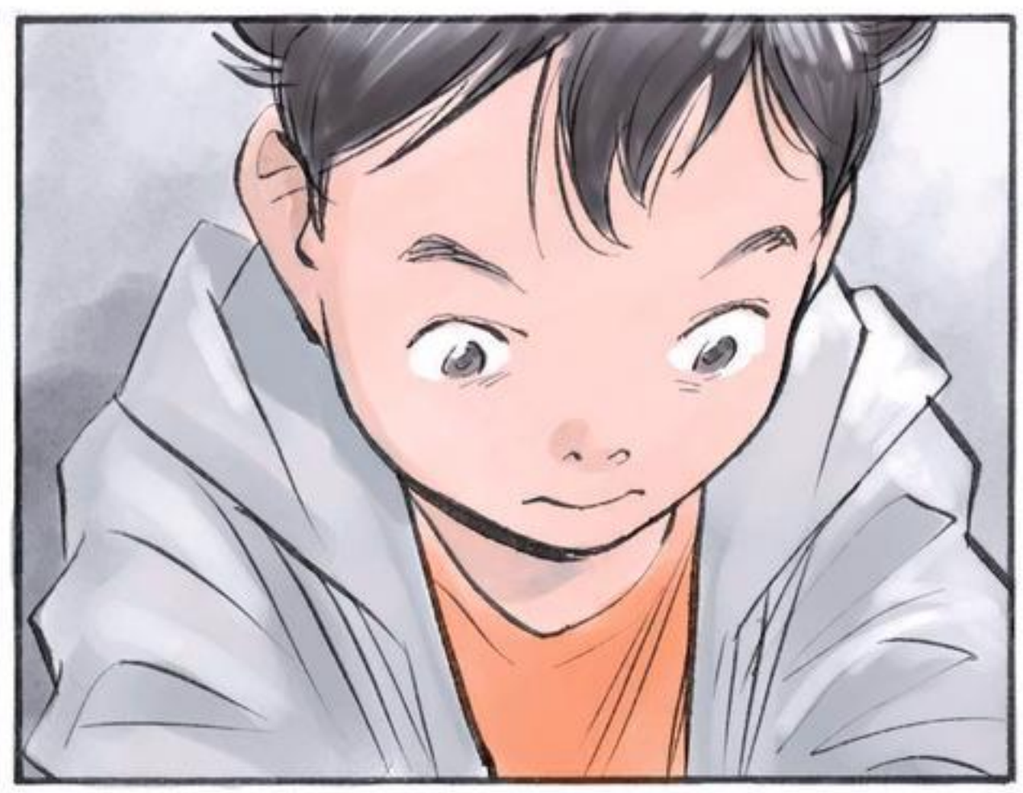

WE'VE PUT MULTIPLE LEVELS OF SECURITY IN PLACE TO ENSURE THAT NO DATA FROM HIS AI LEAKS TO THE OUTSIDE WORLD, SIR.
EVEN THE FACT THAT HE'S AWAKE IS STILL TOP SECRET.
WELL, SIR, RIGHT NOW WE DON'T EVEN KNOW IF ATOM'S FULLY FUNCTIONAL.
AND WITH THE ENEMY STILL OUT THERE IT'S POSSIBLE HE'LL TRY TO ATTACK ATOM...
THE WHOLE WORLD'S BEEN IN A BIT OF A PANIC EVER SINCE EPSILON WAS DESTROYED.

WHAT DID YOU DO, TENMA ...?

ANY WORD ON PROFESSOR TENMA'S WHERE-ABOUTS?

NOT YET, SIR.

WHAT ON EARTH DID YOU DO TO ATOM?



TELL US WHAT YOU'RE THINKING...

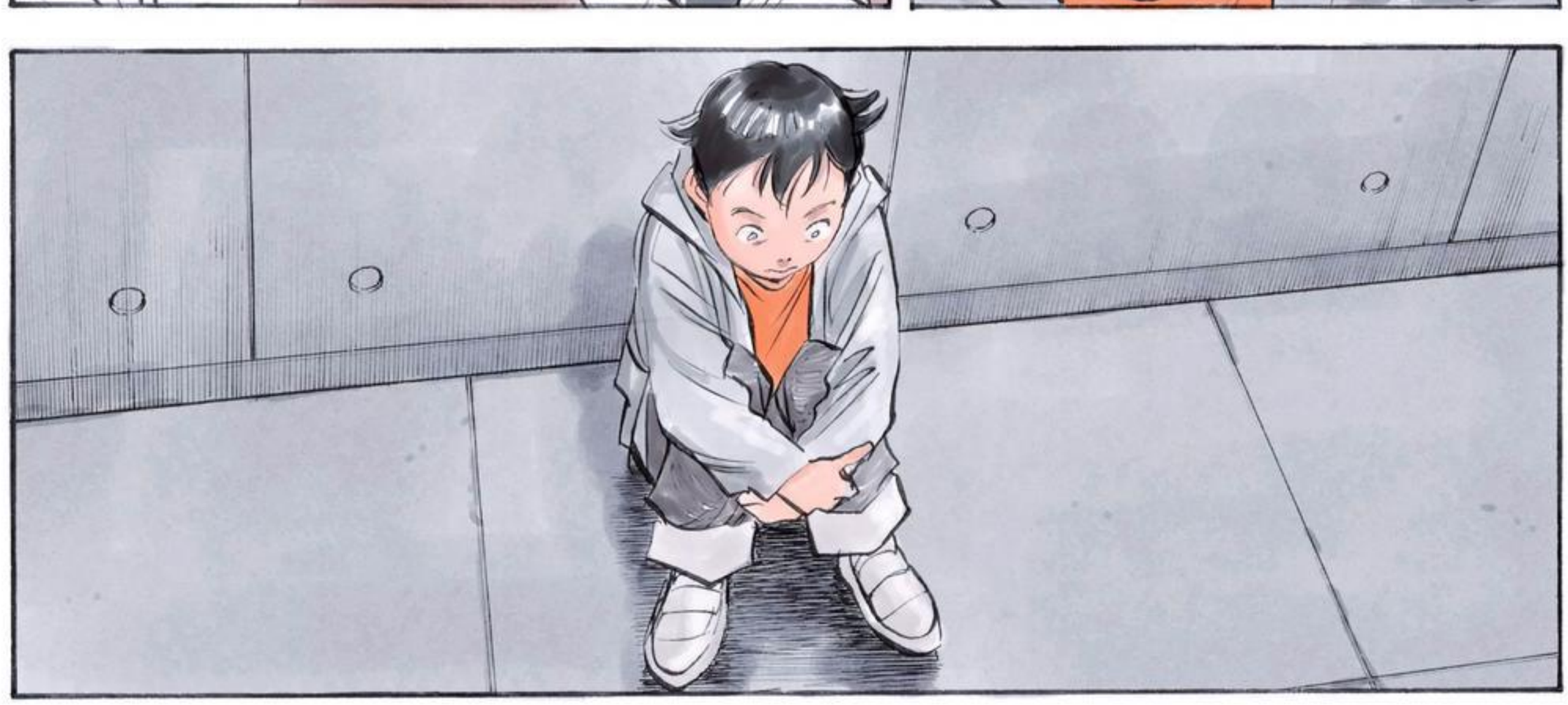
TALK TO US, ATOM.

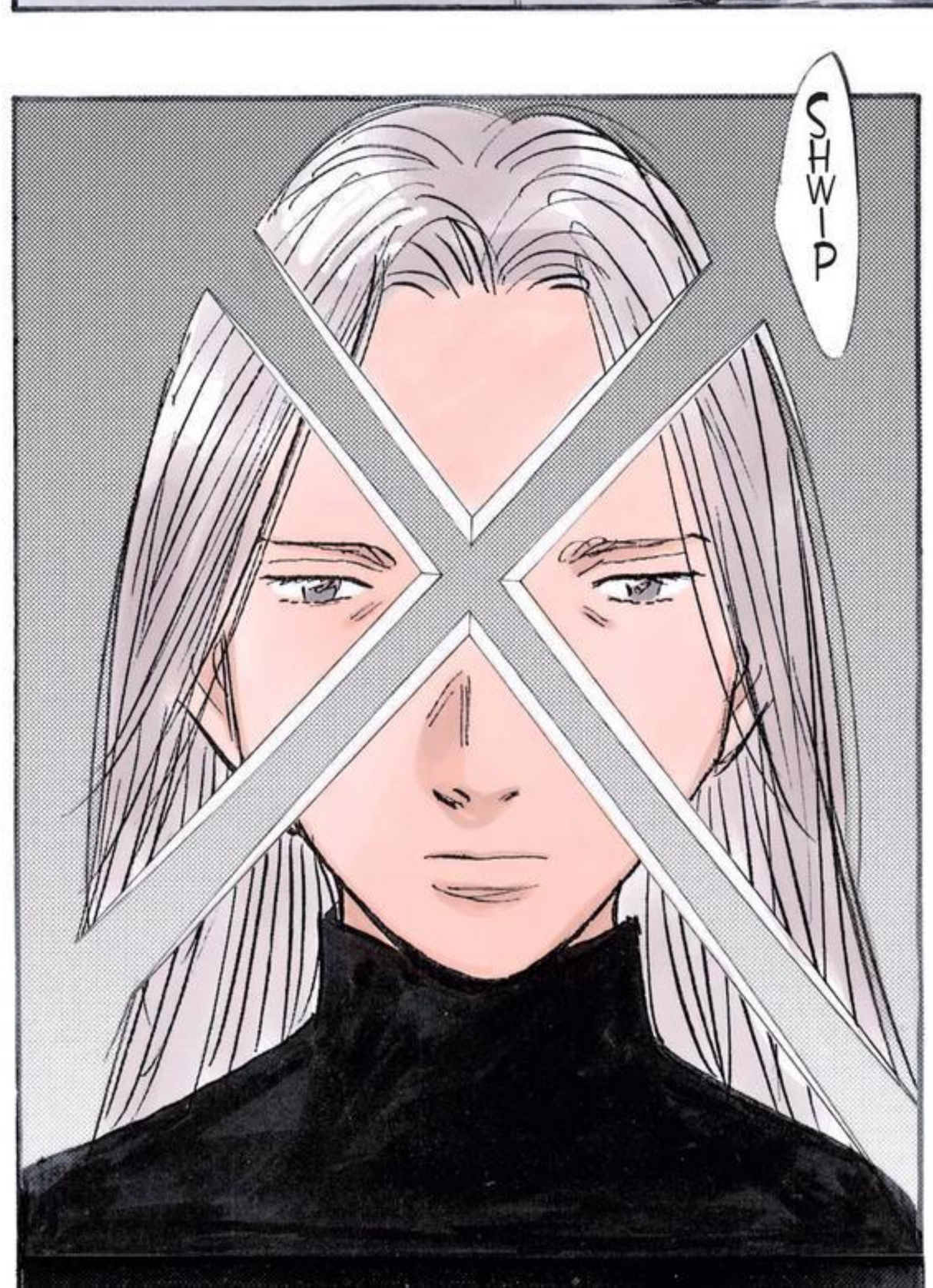
WHAT'D YOU SAY, ATOM?

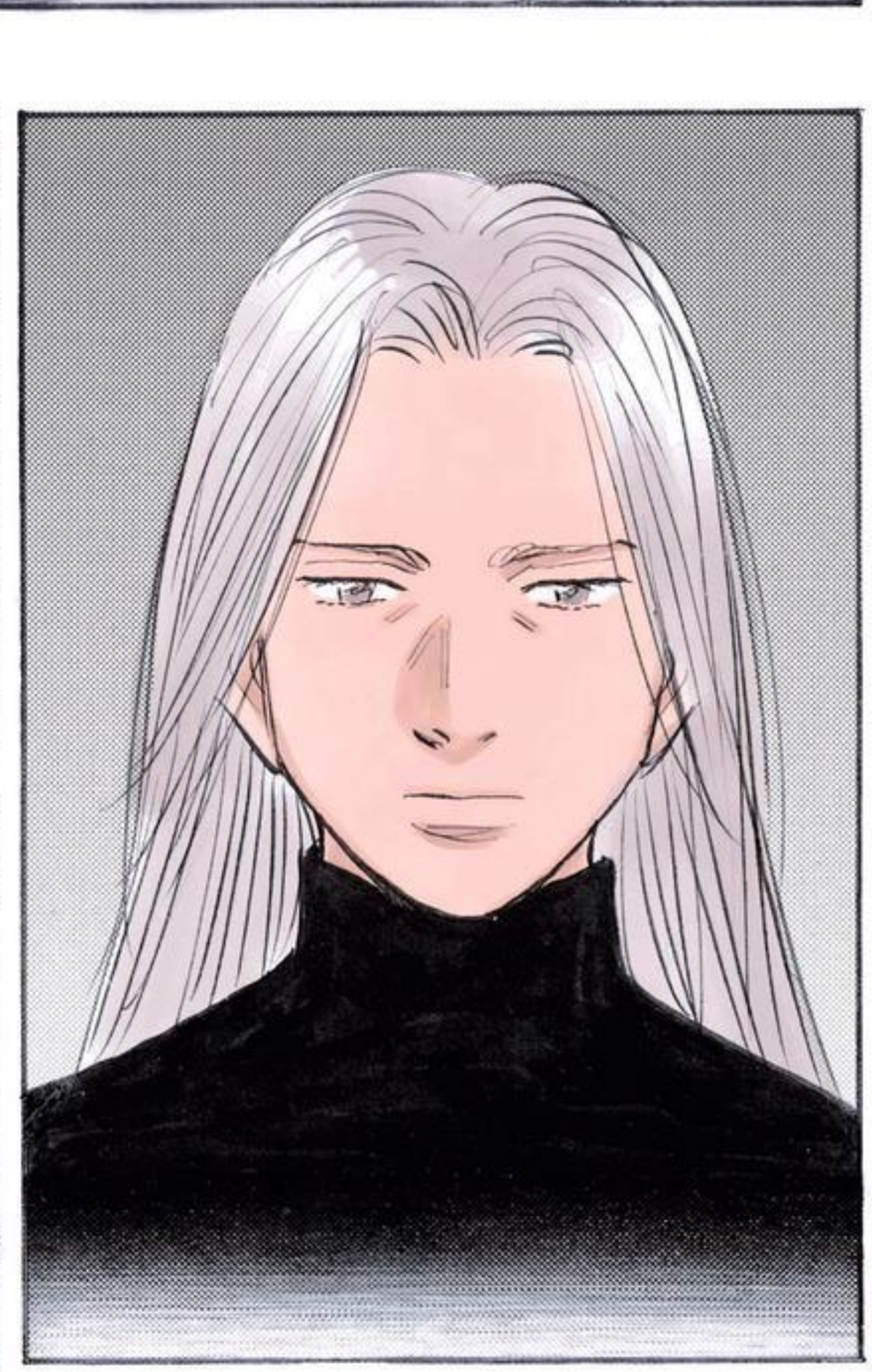
WHAT?

YES-SIR!
A PEN!! HURRY! GET HIM A PEN AND PAPER!!

A PEN ...




SHWIP



SO IT'S OVER...

FIN-ISHED ...

...BEEN ELIMI-NATED.

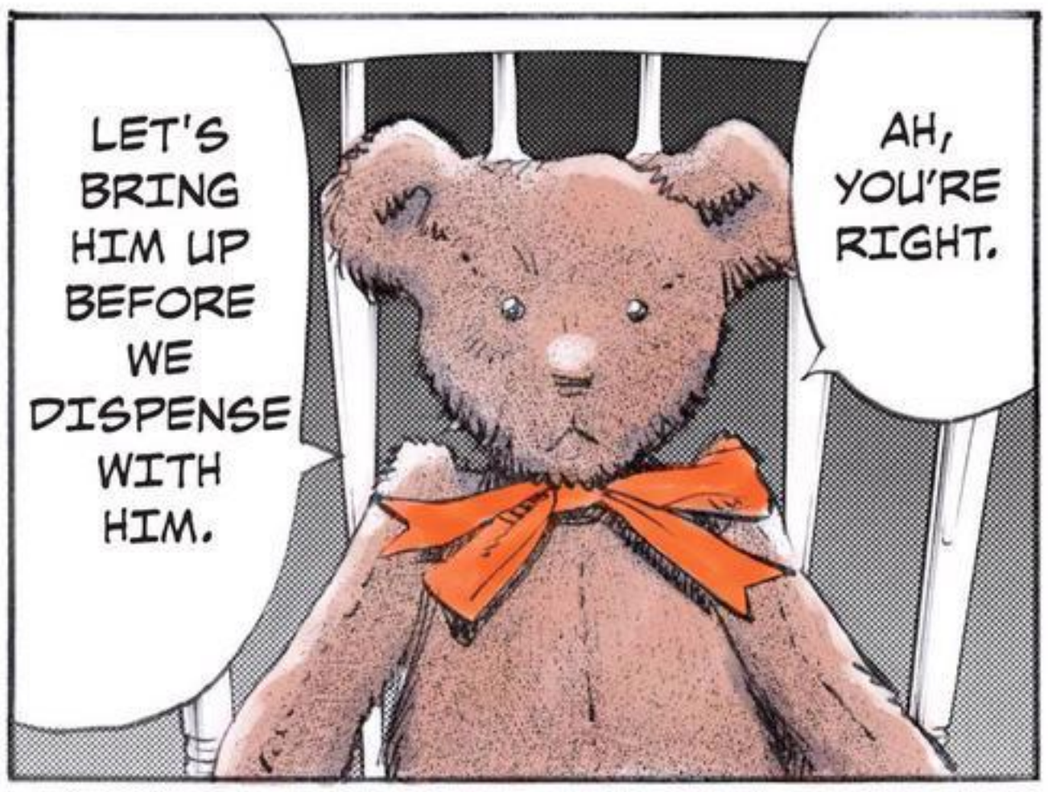
THEY'VE ALL...

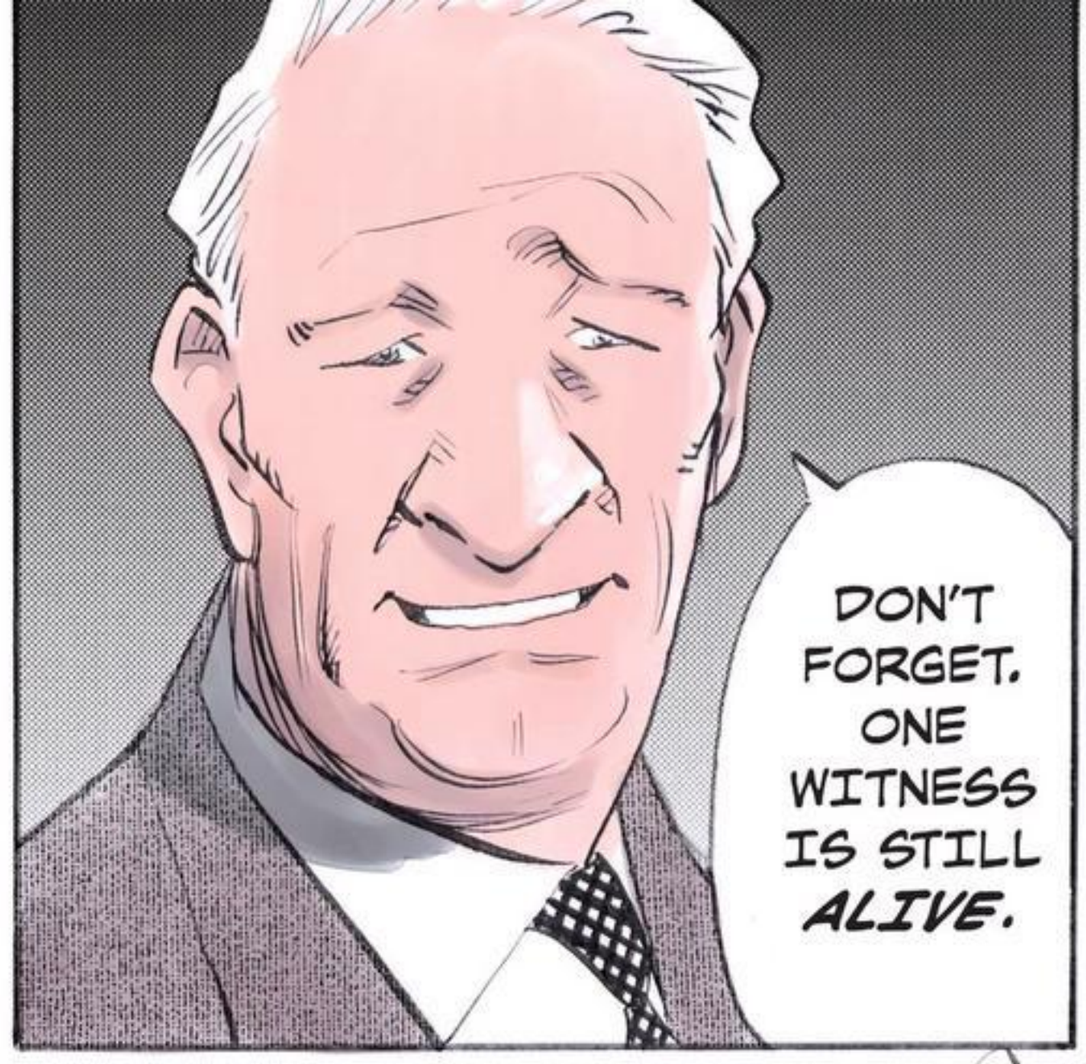
WHAT'S THAT?

BUT THERE'S ONE THING LEFT...

THAT'S RIGHT ...

IT ALL WENT ACCORDING TO PLAN.

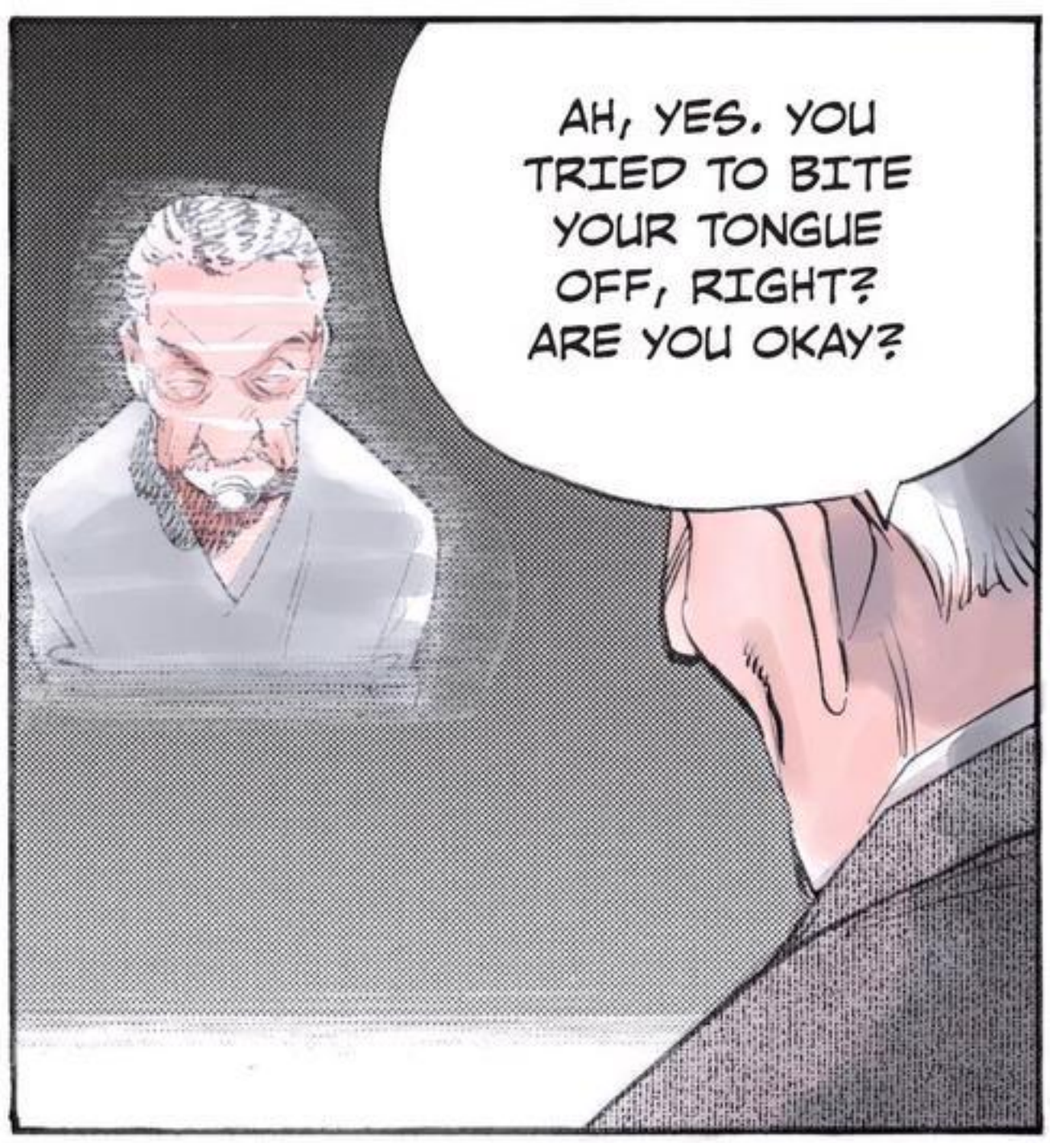

LET'S BRING HIM UP BEFORE WE DISPENSE WITH HIM.
AH, YOU'RE RIGHT.

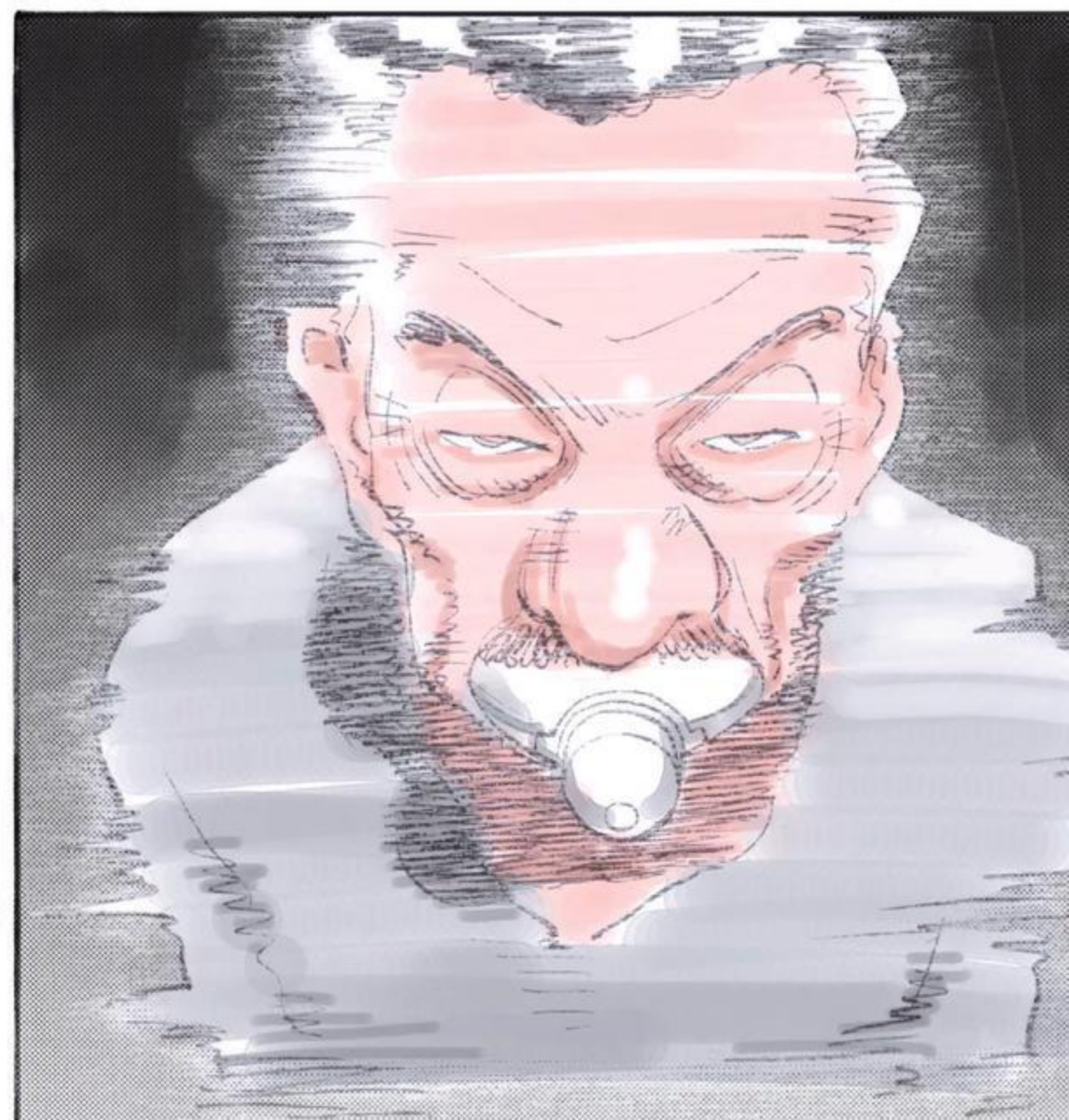

DON'T FORGET. ONE WITNESS IS STILL *ALIVE*.

ZHHK

BZZT

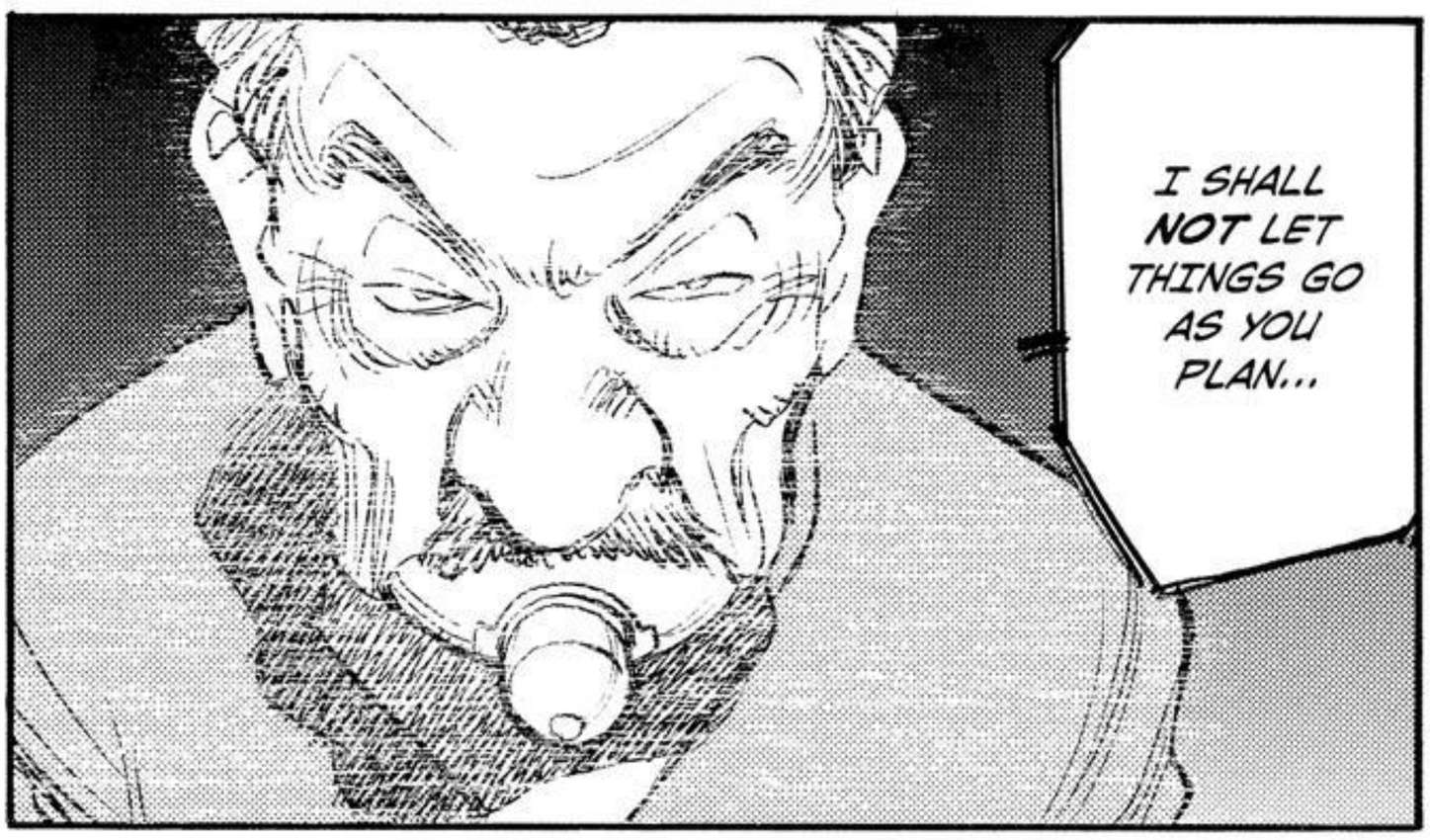
BUT WHAT'S THIS? YOU LOOK OUT OF SORTS...
WELL, WELL. IT'S BEEN A WHILE.


AH, YES. YOU TRIED TO BITE YOUR TONGUE OFF, RIGHT? ARE YOU OKAY?

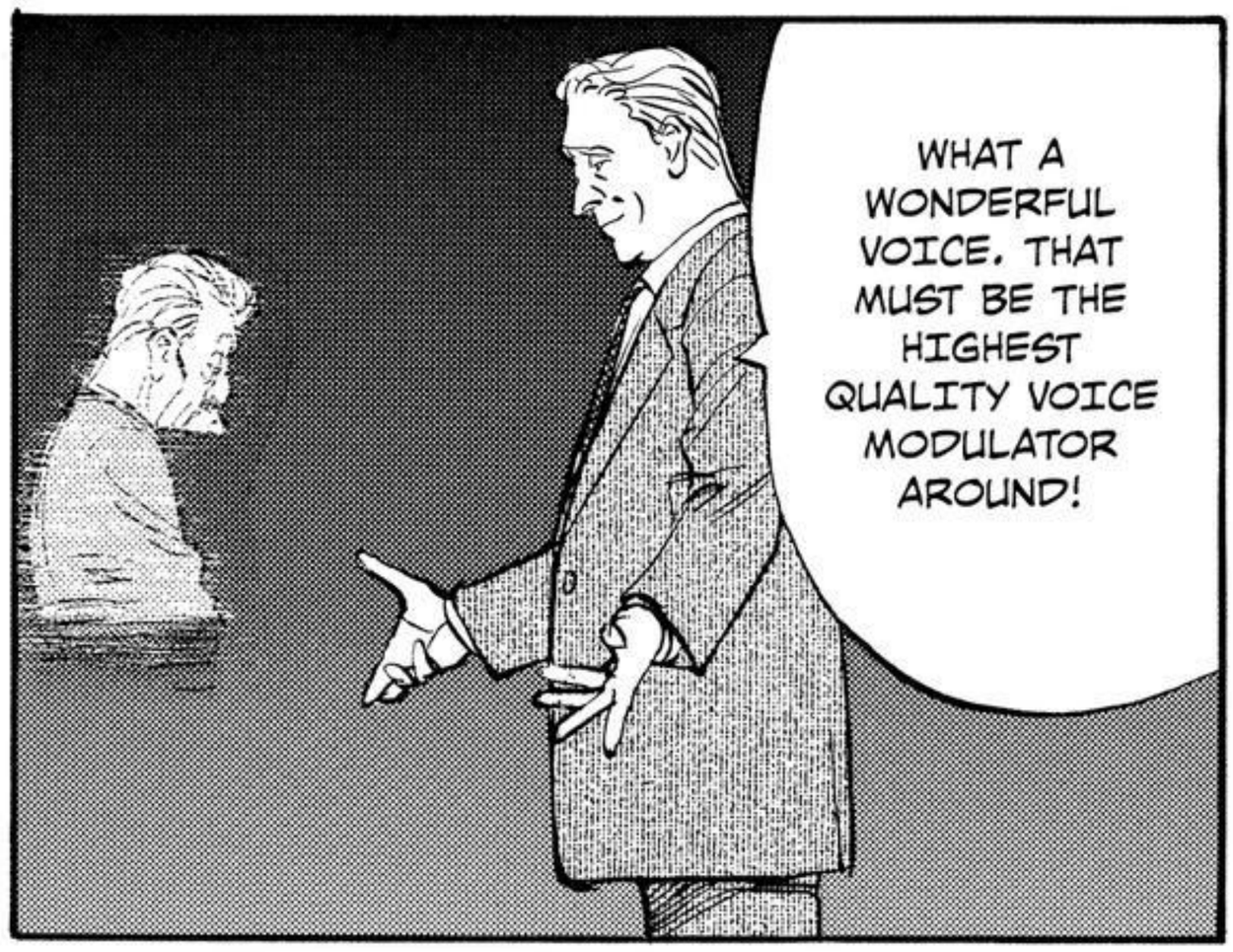


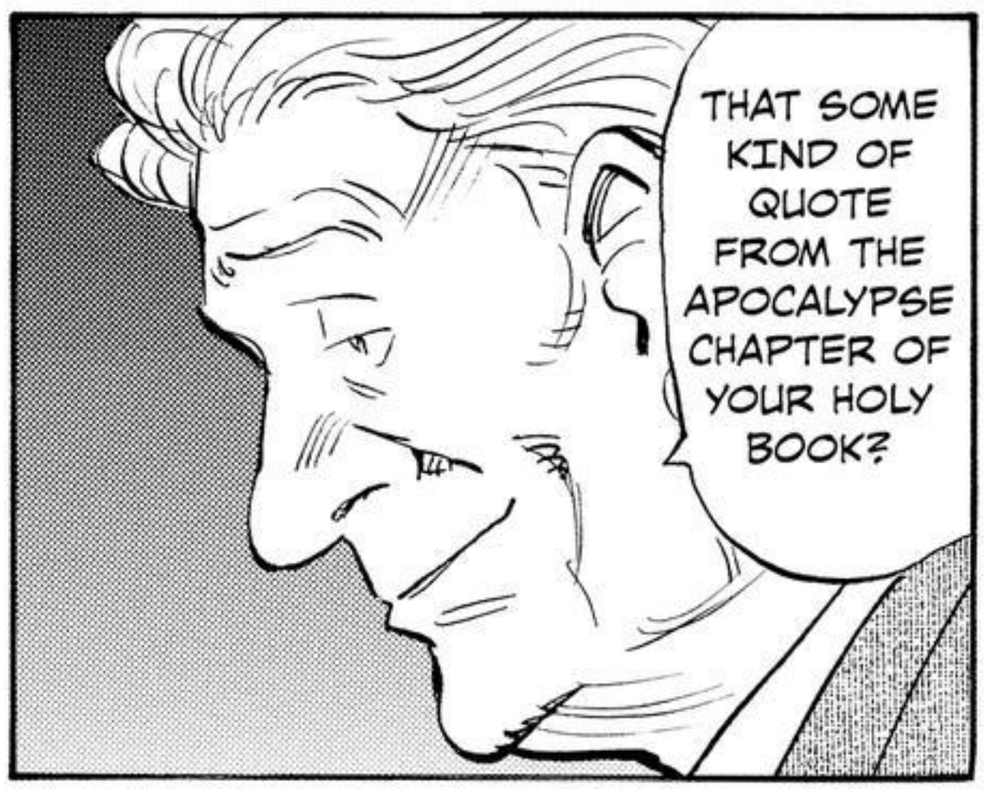
NEVER ...
WHY, IF YOU WEREN'T INCARCERATED RIGHT NOW, I'D PROPOSE A TOAST.

WITH YOUR HELP, WE WERE ABLE TO EXECUTE OUR PLAN, ON SCHEDULE, NO LESS.
IT'S ALL THANKS TO YOU-- DARIUS XIV!

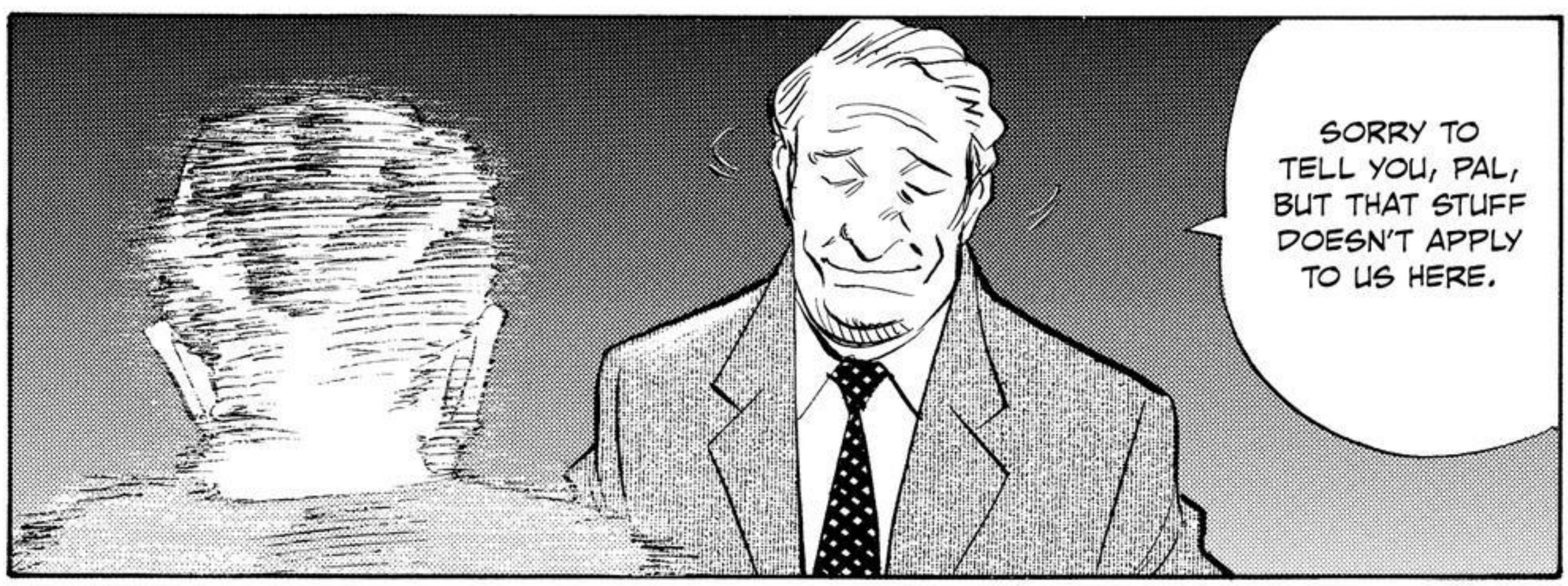

I SHALL NOT LET THINGS GO AS YOU PLAN...

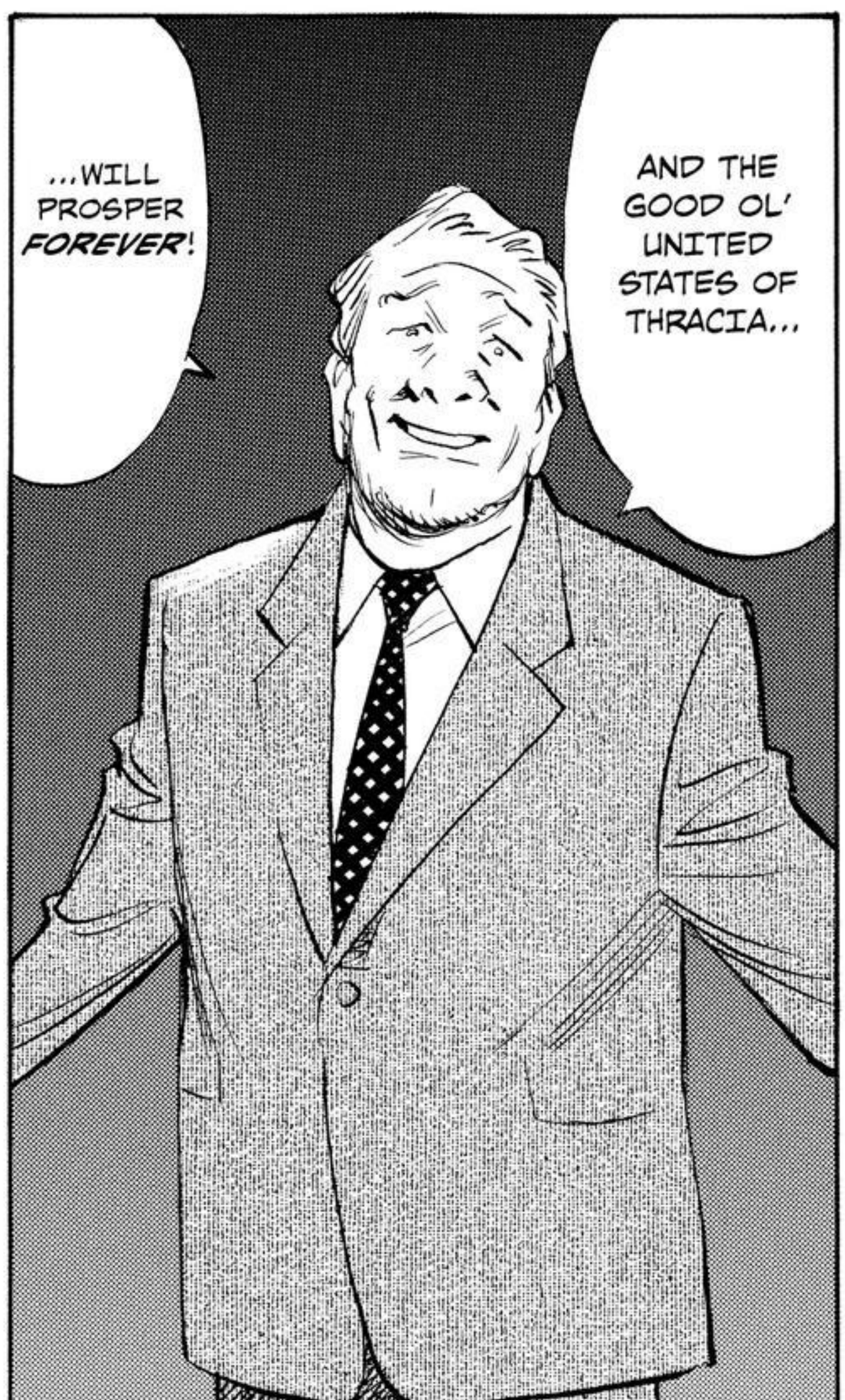
THOU SHALT BE CONSUMED IN THE FLAMES OF THINE OWN HATRED.


WHAT A WONDERFUL VOICE. THAT MUST BE THE HIGHEST QUALITY VOICE MODULATOR AROUND!

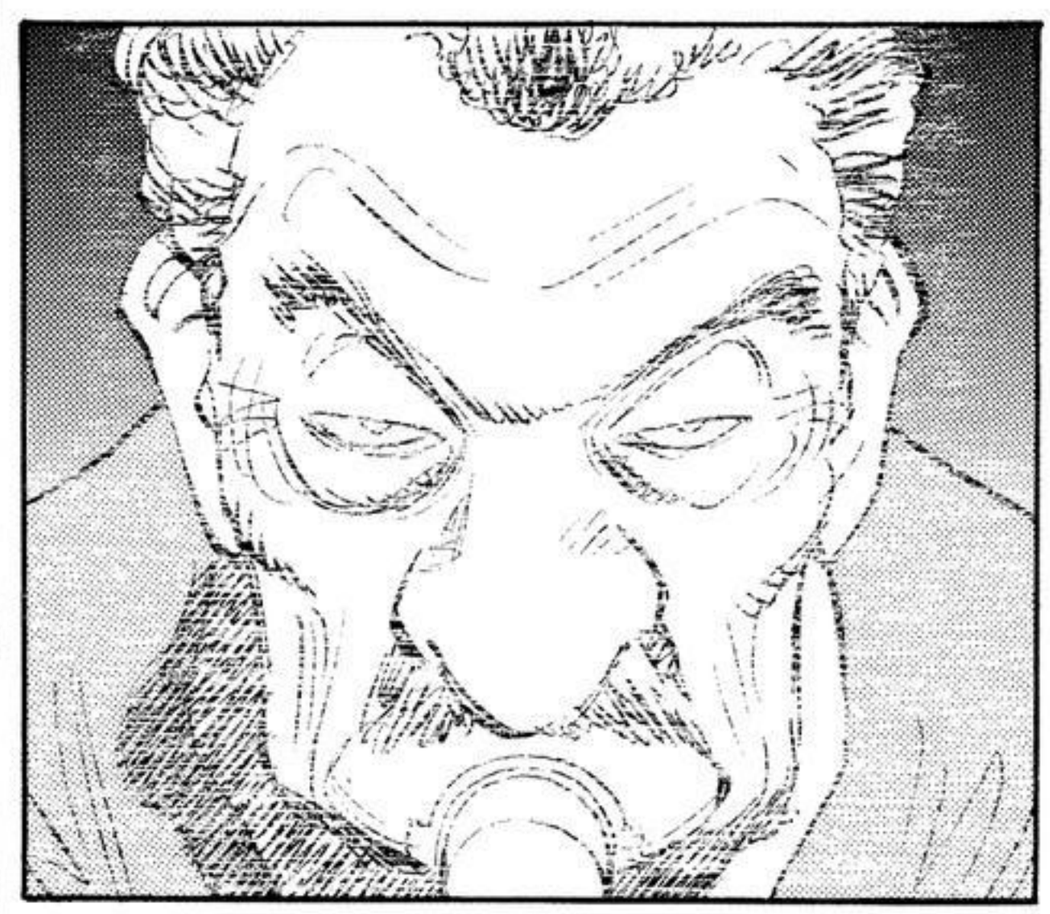

THAT SOME KIND OF QUOTE FROM THE APOCALYPSE CHAPTER OF YOUR HOLY BOOK?

...NO MATTER WHERE THOU FLEE, THERE SHALL BE NO ESCAPE.


SORRY TO TELL YOU, PAL, BUT THAT STUFF DOESN'T APPLY TO US HERE.

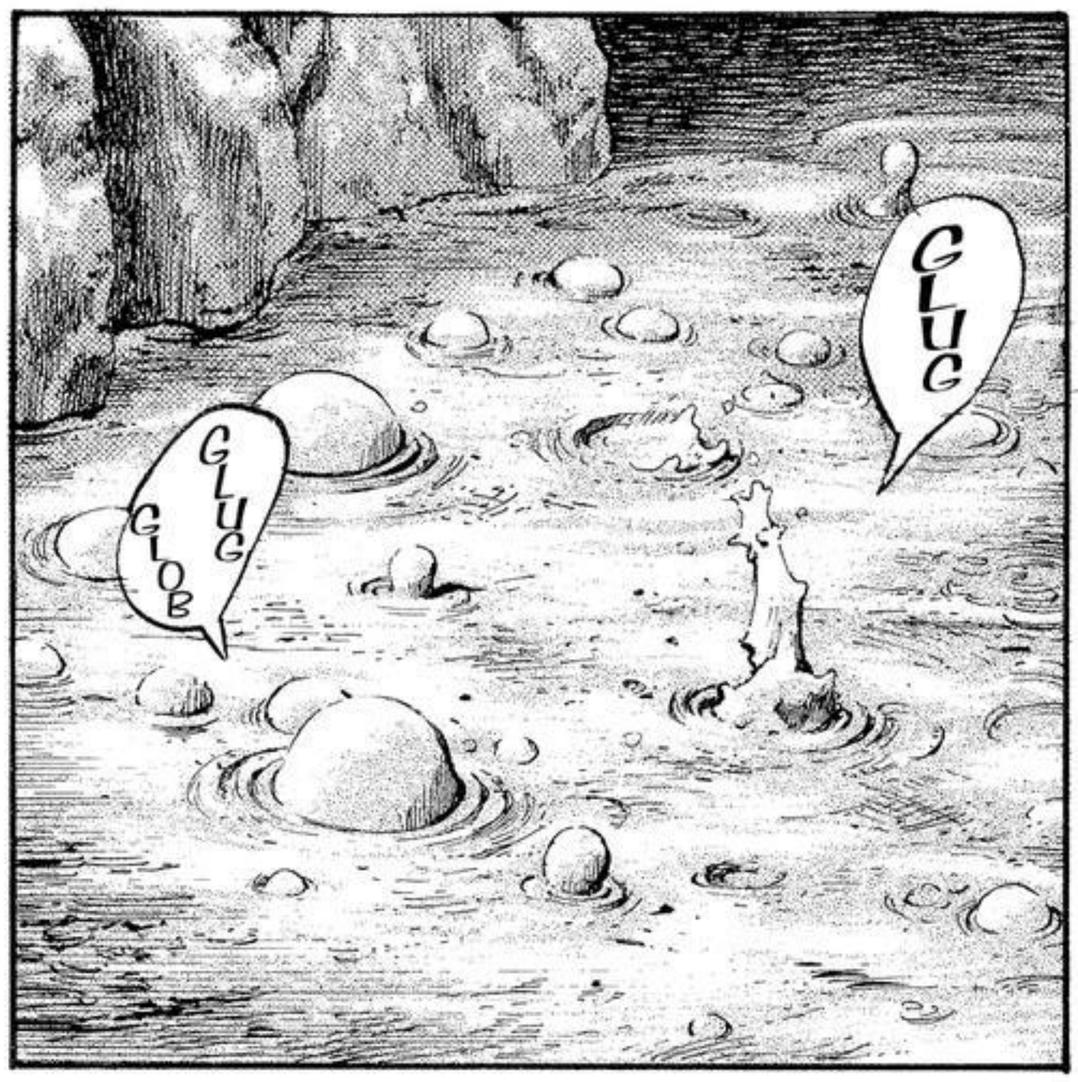

...WILL PROSPER *FOREVER*!
AND THE GOOD OL' UNITED STATES OF THRACIA...

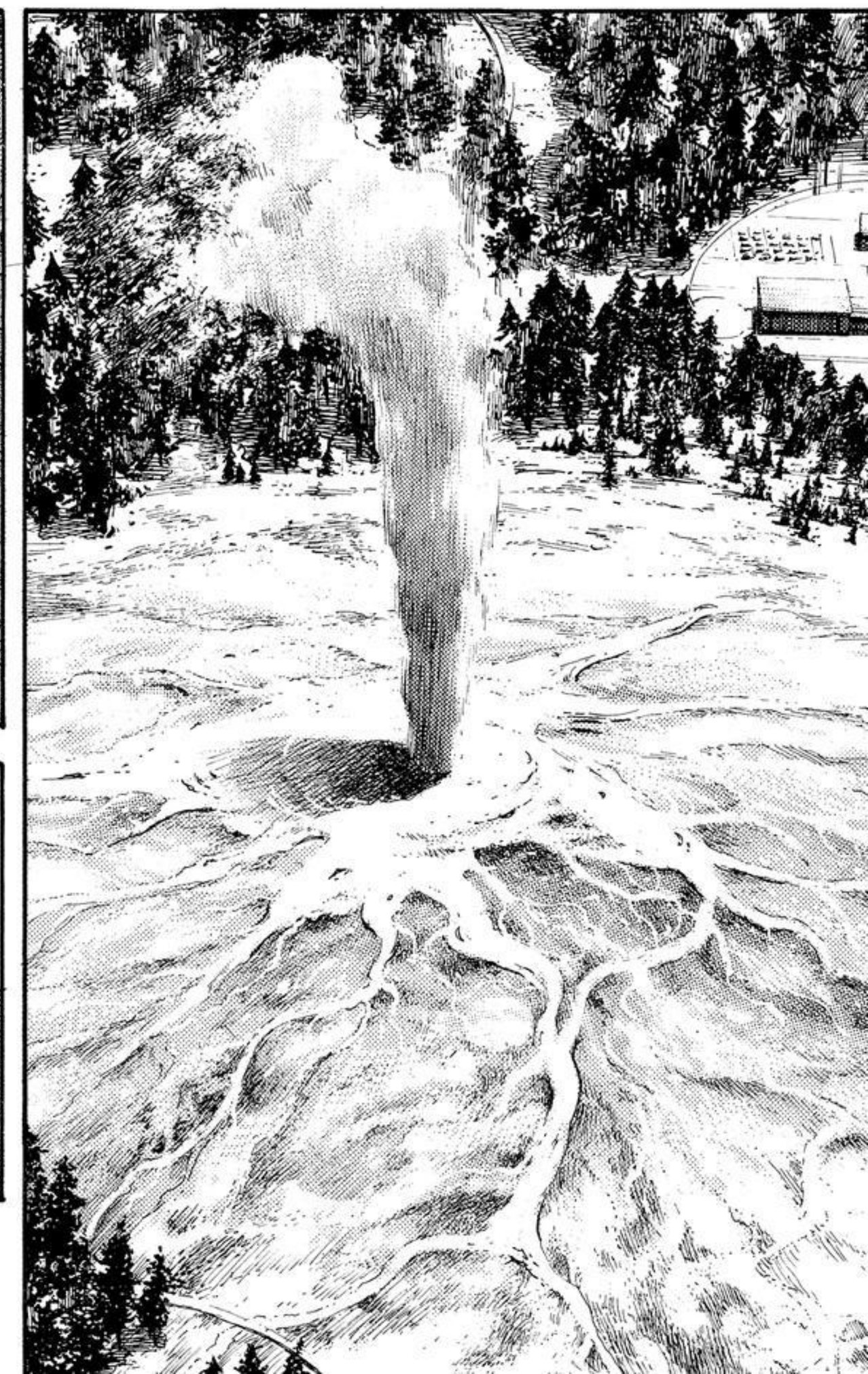
...IS PROSPER-ITY!
THE ONLY THING WE HAVE HERE...



ETERNAL PROSPERITY!

EDEN!! THE NATIONAL PARK... THE GREATEST HEALING ZONE IN THE WORLD!!

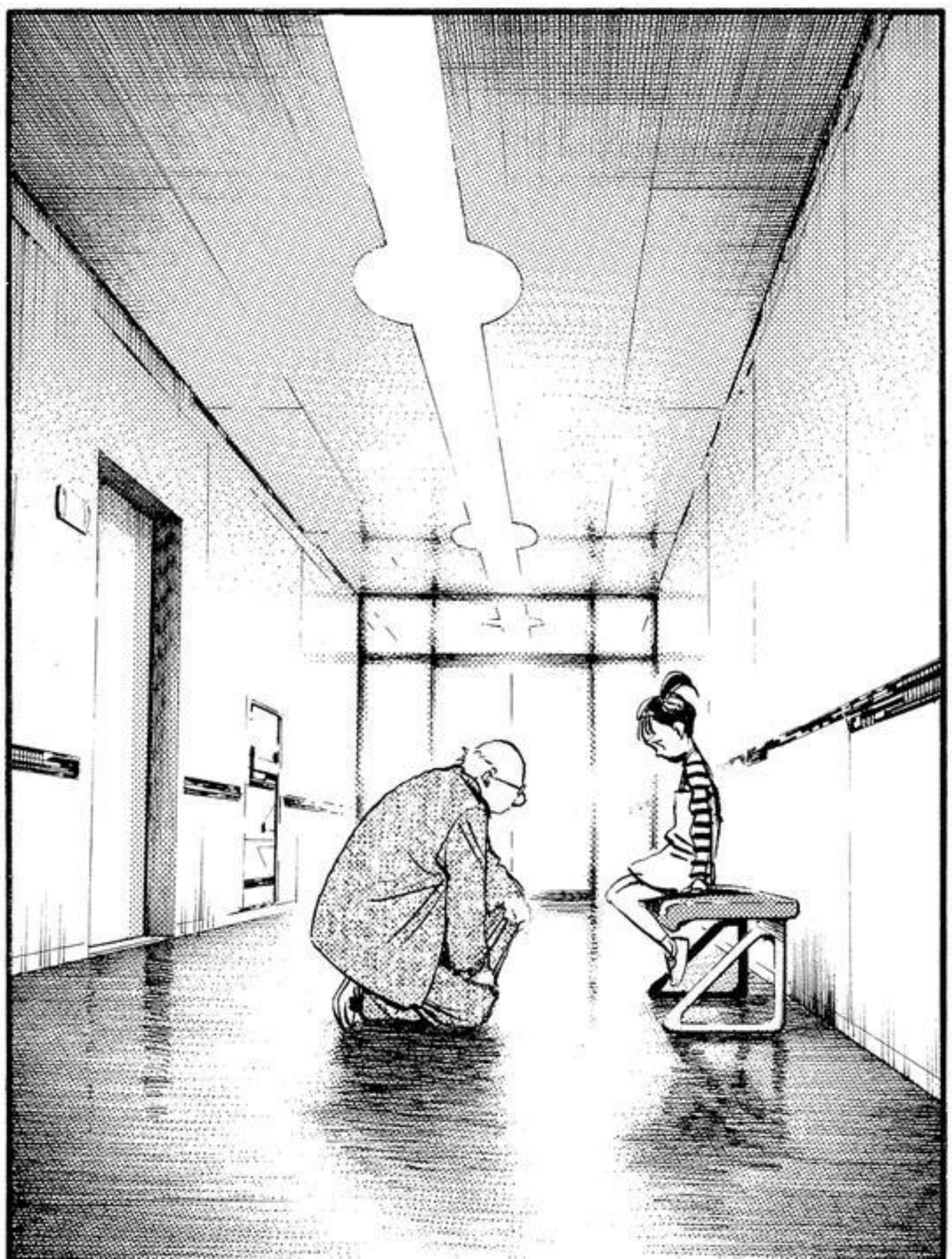


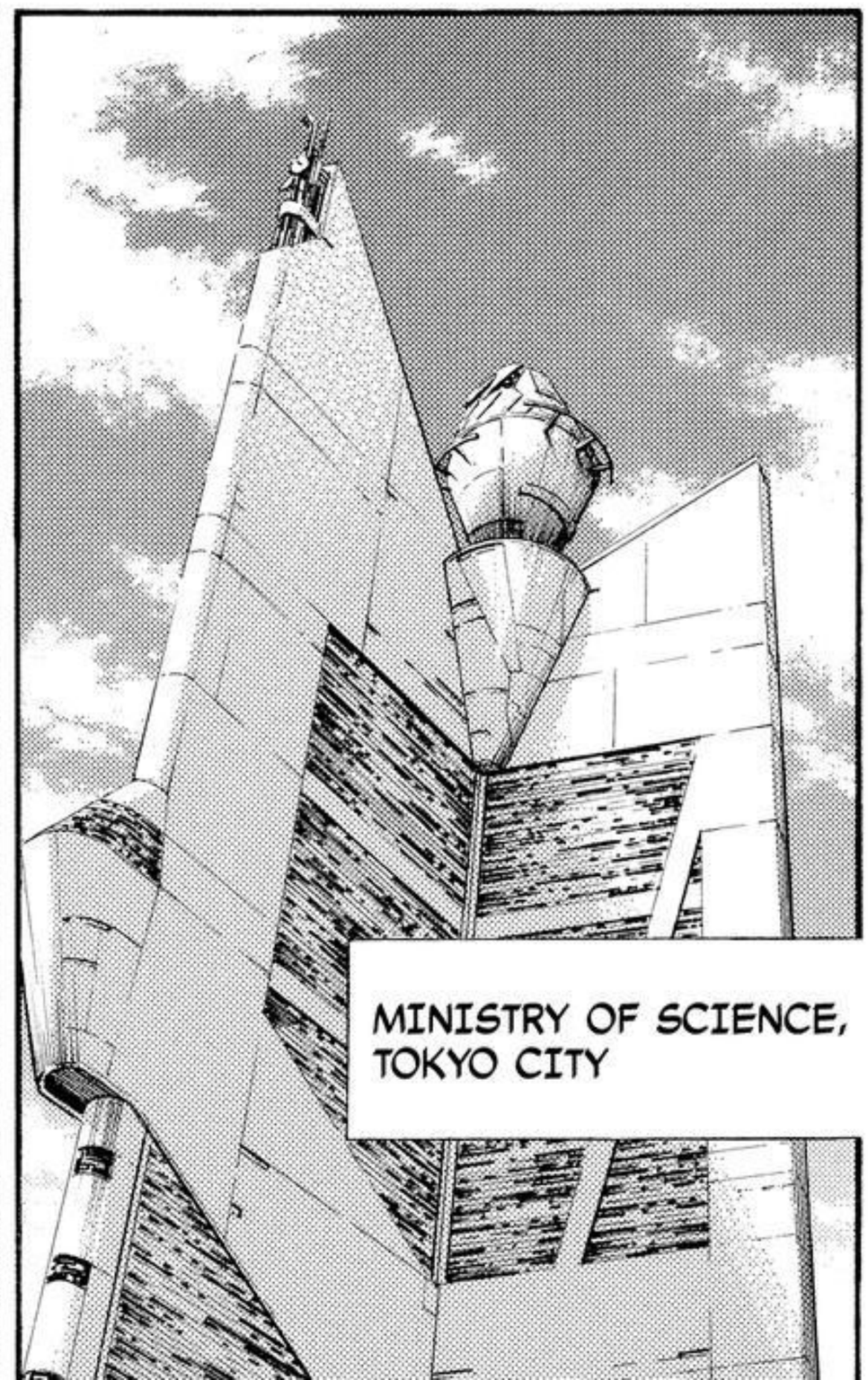


BUT THESE ARE EVERGREENS...

SURE ARE A LOT OF DEAD TREES...

IT'S WINTER, DEAR.

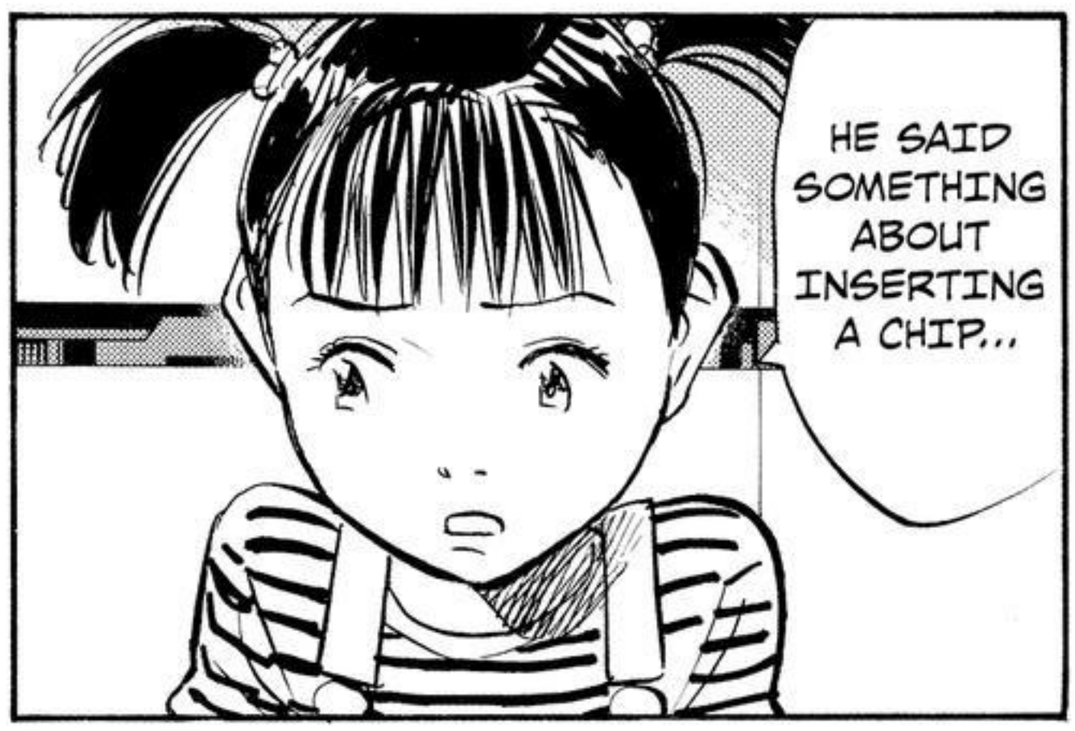


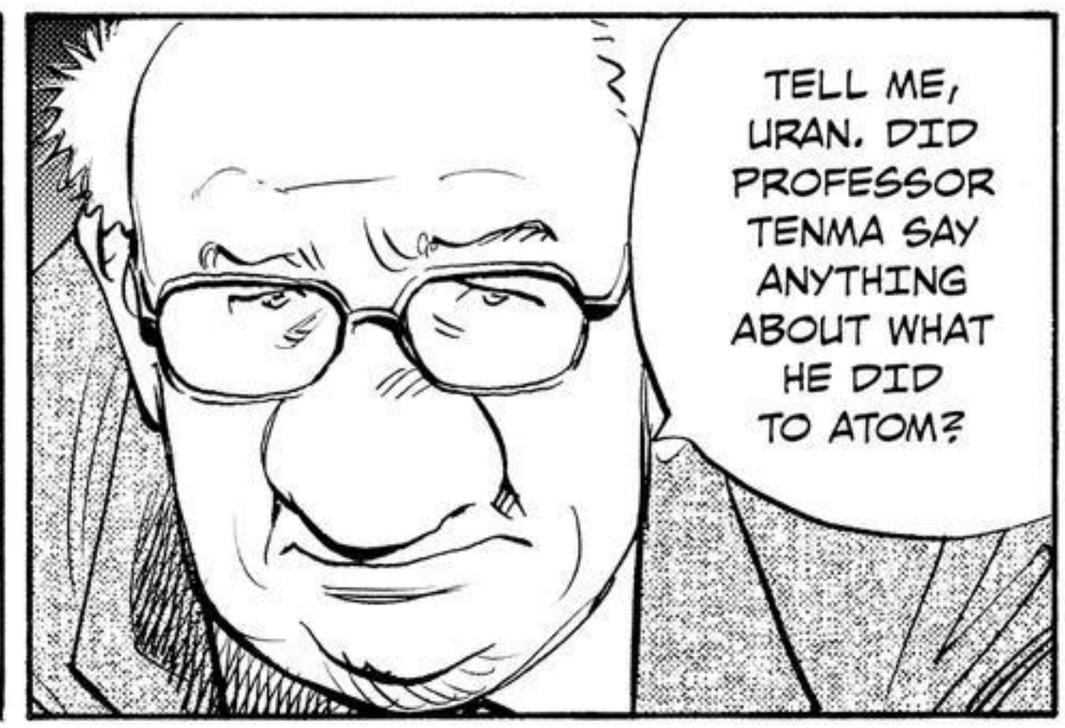


YOU THINK HE MIGHT NOT GET BETTER?

WE'VE GOT TO RUN SOME MORE TESTS, URAN.
IS THERE STILL SOMETHING WRONG WITH MY BROTHER, PROFESSOR?

NOT YET...
I DON'T KNOW...

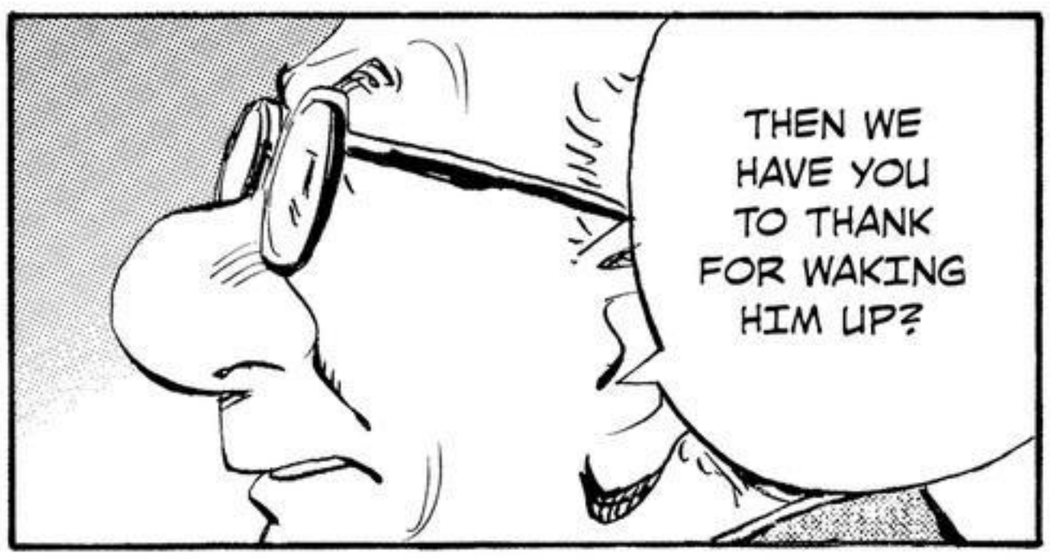

HE SAID SOMETHING ABOUT INSERTING A CHIP...


TELL ME, URAN. DID PROFESSOR TENMA SAY ANYTHING ABOUT WHAT HE DID TO ATOM?

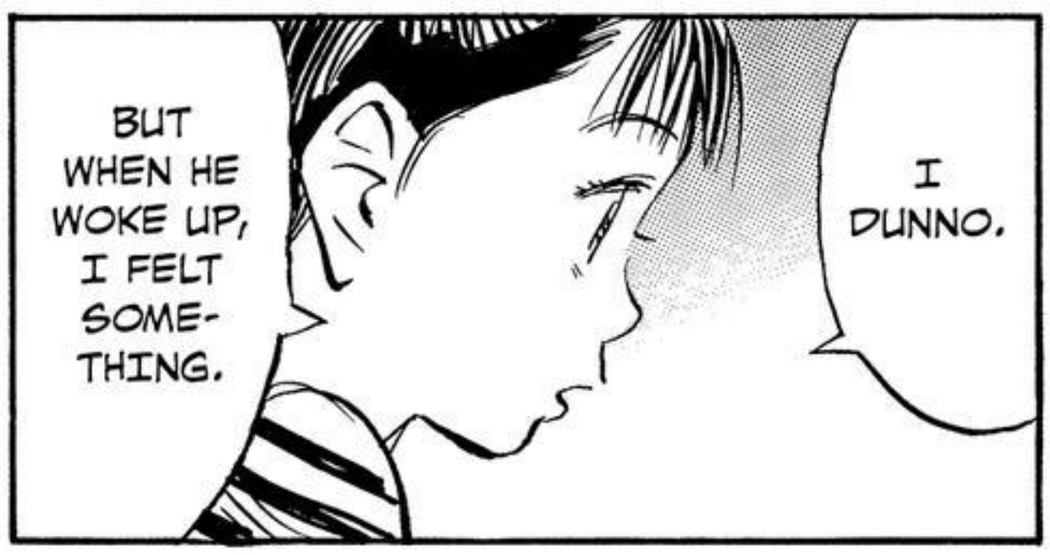
URAN, WHY'D HE BRING YOU HERE?

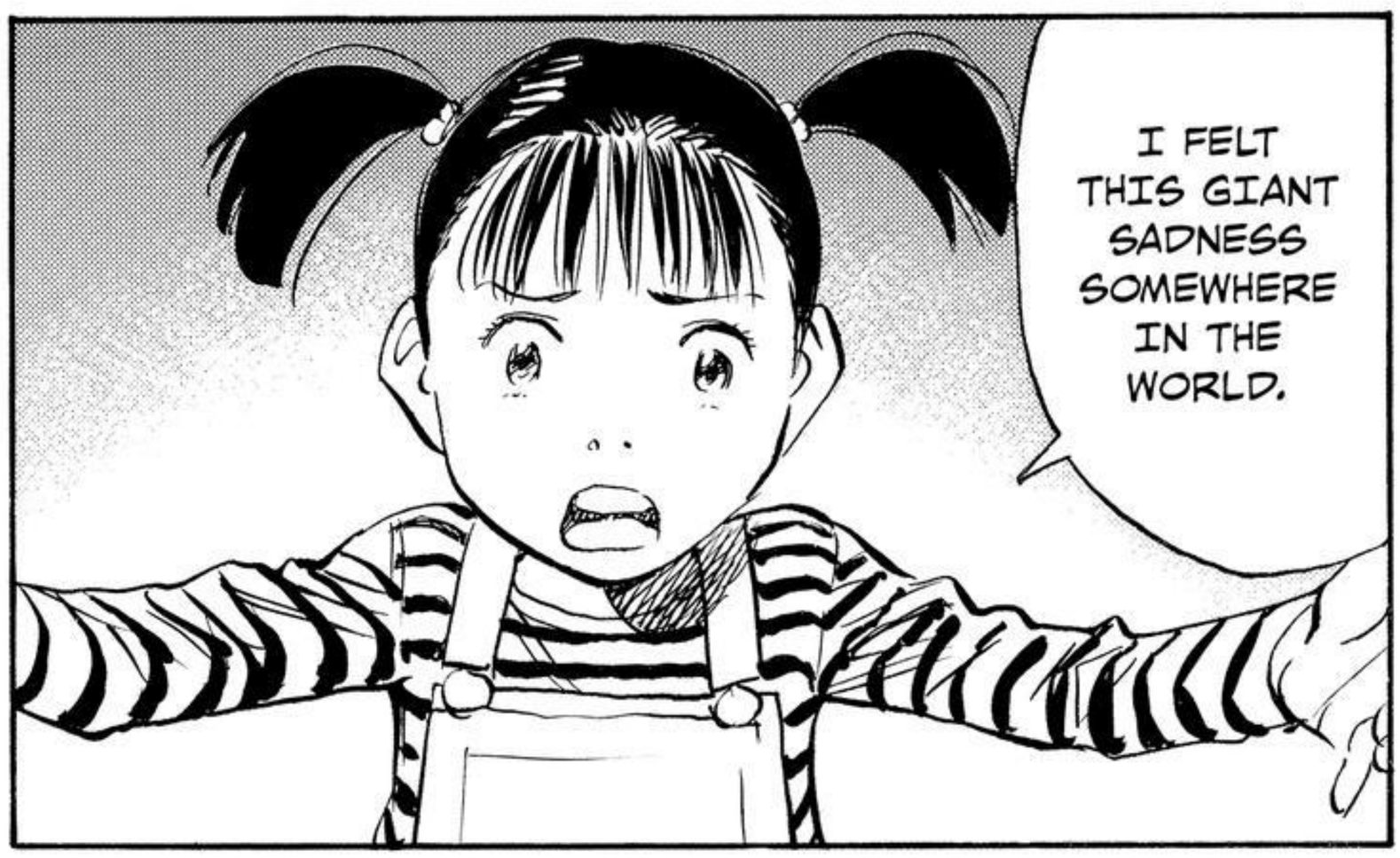
I DUNNO.
WHAT KIND OF CHIP?

CUZ I WANTED TO SEE MY BROTHER.


THEN WE HAVE YOU TO THANK FOR WAKING HIM UP?

AND WHEN YOU FINALLY SAW YOUR BROTHER, HE WOKE UP, RIGHT?
YEAH.


BUT WHEN HE WOKE UP, I FELT SOME-THING.
I DUNNO.

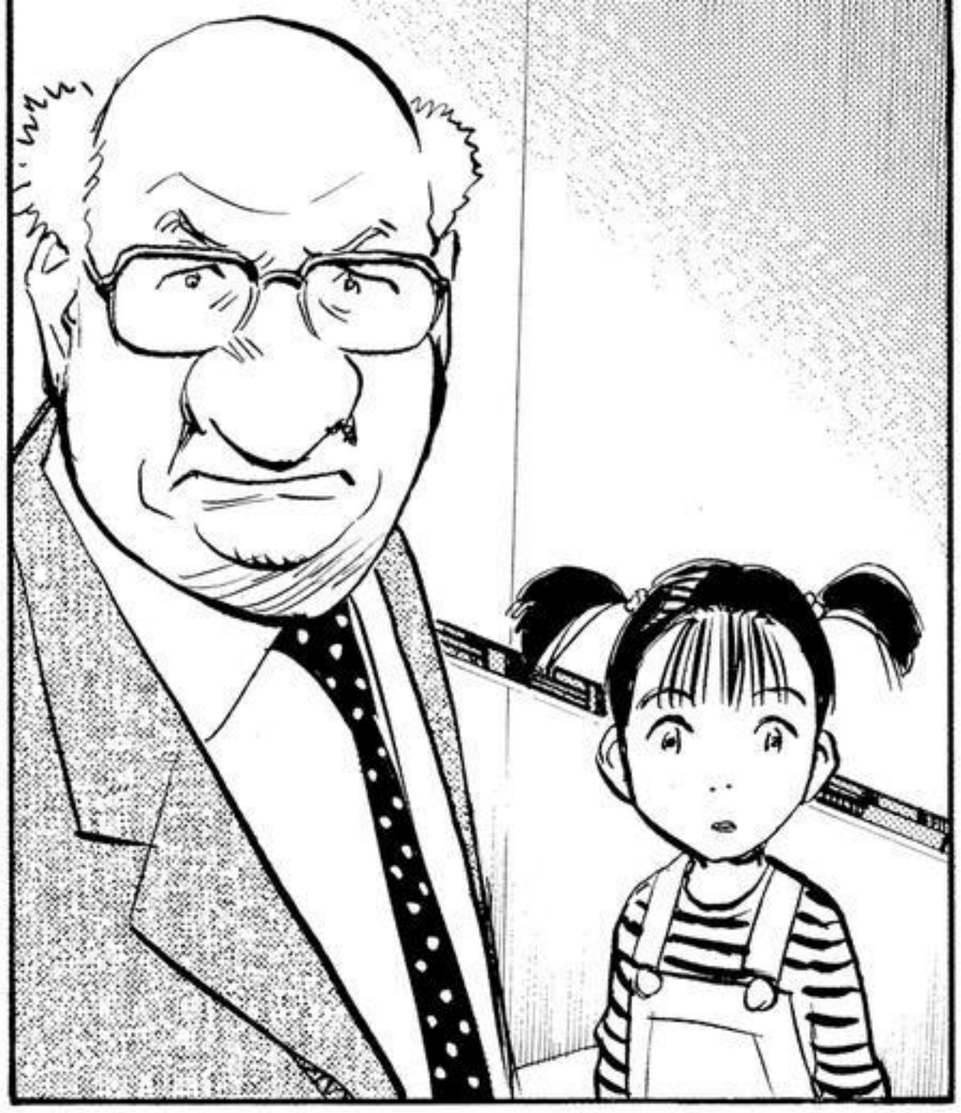

I FELT THIS GIANT SADNESS SOMEWHERE IN THE WORLD.

WHAT?

WE'VE GOT A PROBLEM, SIR!
HUF
HUF

PROFESSOR OCHANOMIZU!!

...



IT'S ATOM...
HE'S... HE HAS...

LEMME GO!! LEMME GO IN!!
SOMEONE RESTRAIN URAN!!

DASH

NO! LEMME GO!!
SHE SURE IS POWER-FUL!

MY GOD...

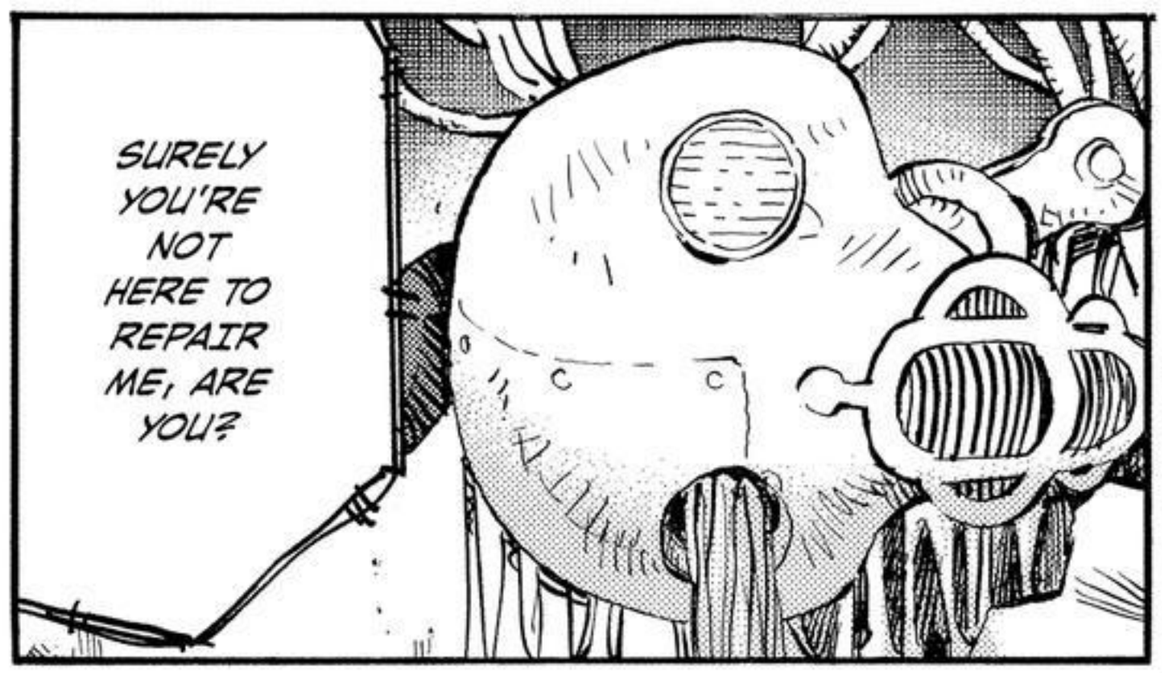
ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE CORRECTIONAL FACILITY, GERMANY

I'M SO HONORED TO BE VISITED BY SUCH A RENOWNED ROBOTICIST ...

KSHK

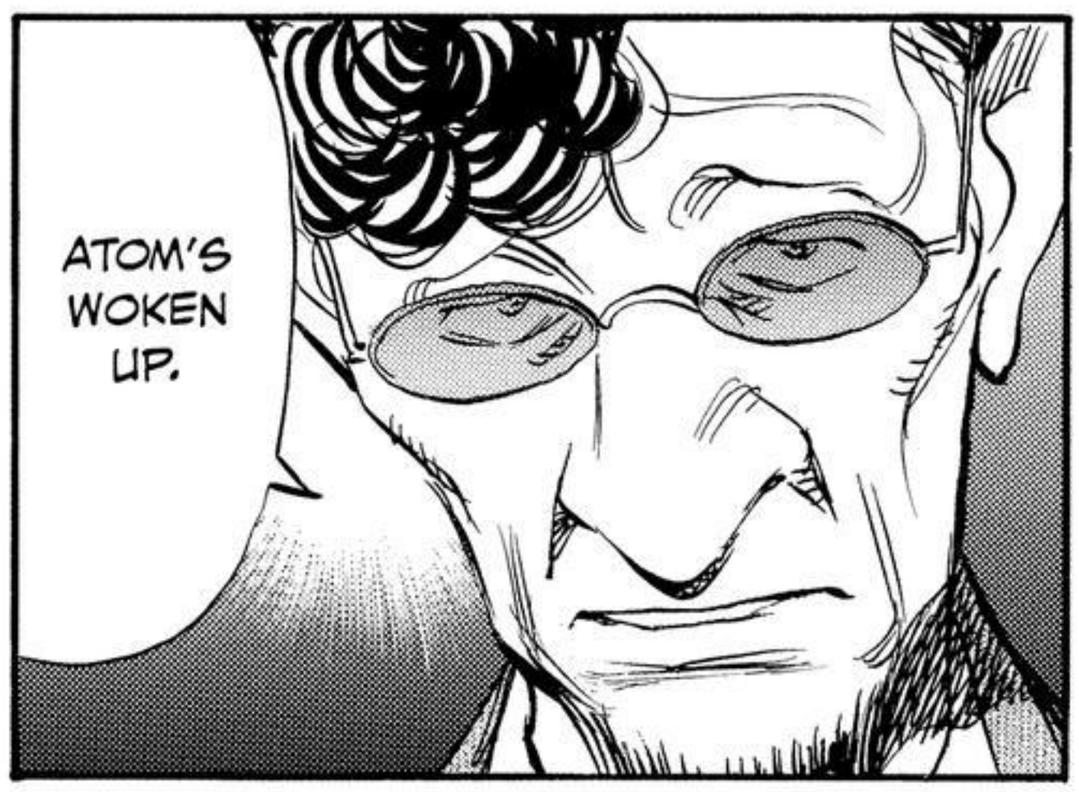
WELL, WELL...

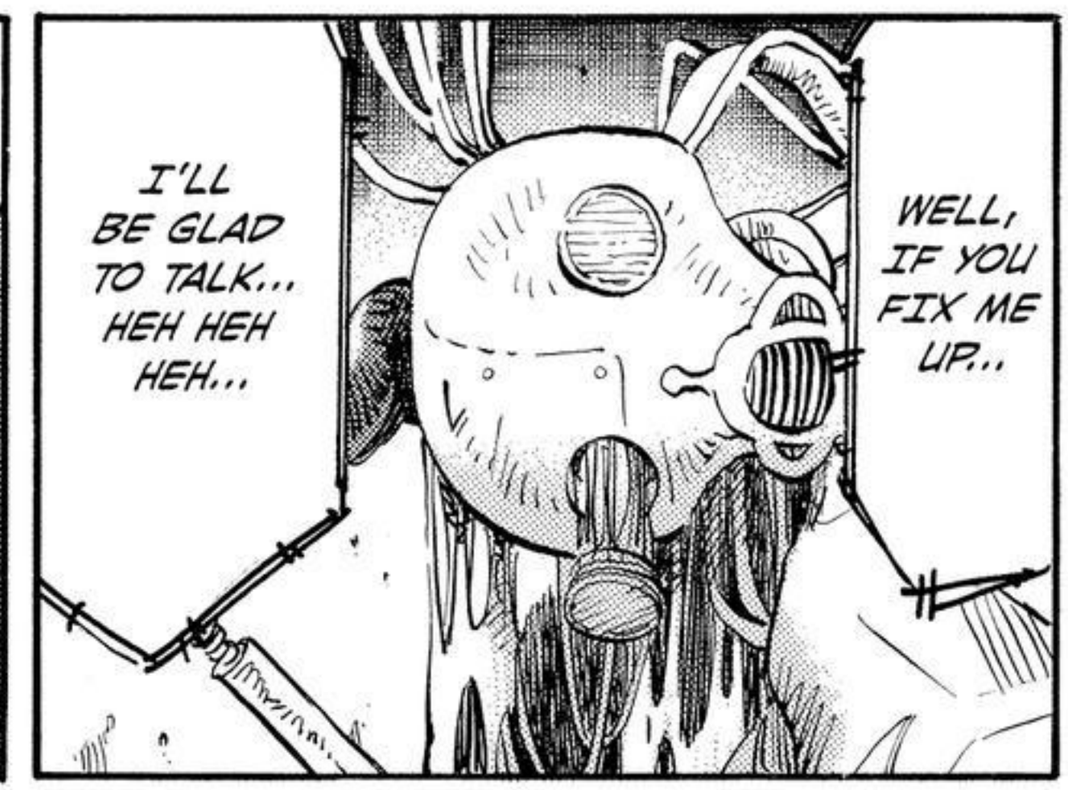
VURR...

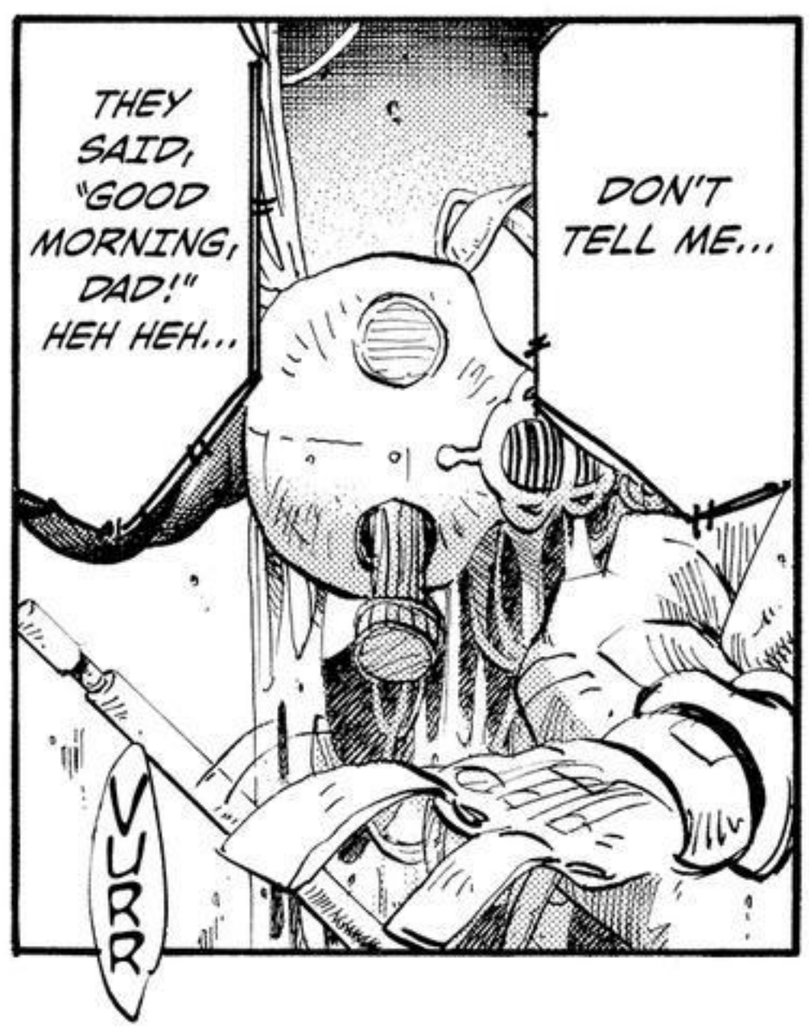

SURELY YOU'RE NOT HERE TO REPAIR ME, ARE YOU?

YOU'RE THE ONLY ROBOT IN THE WORLD WITH AN AI COMPARABLE TO ATOM'S.

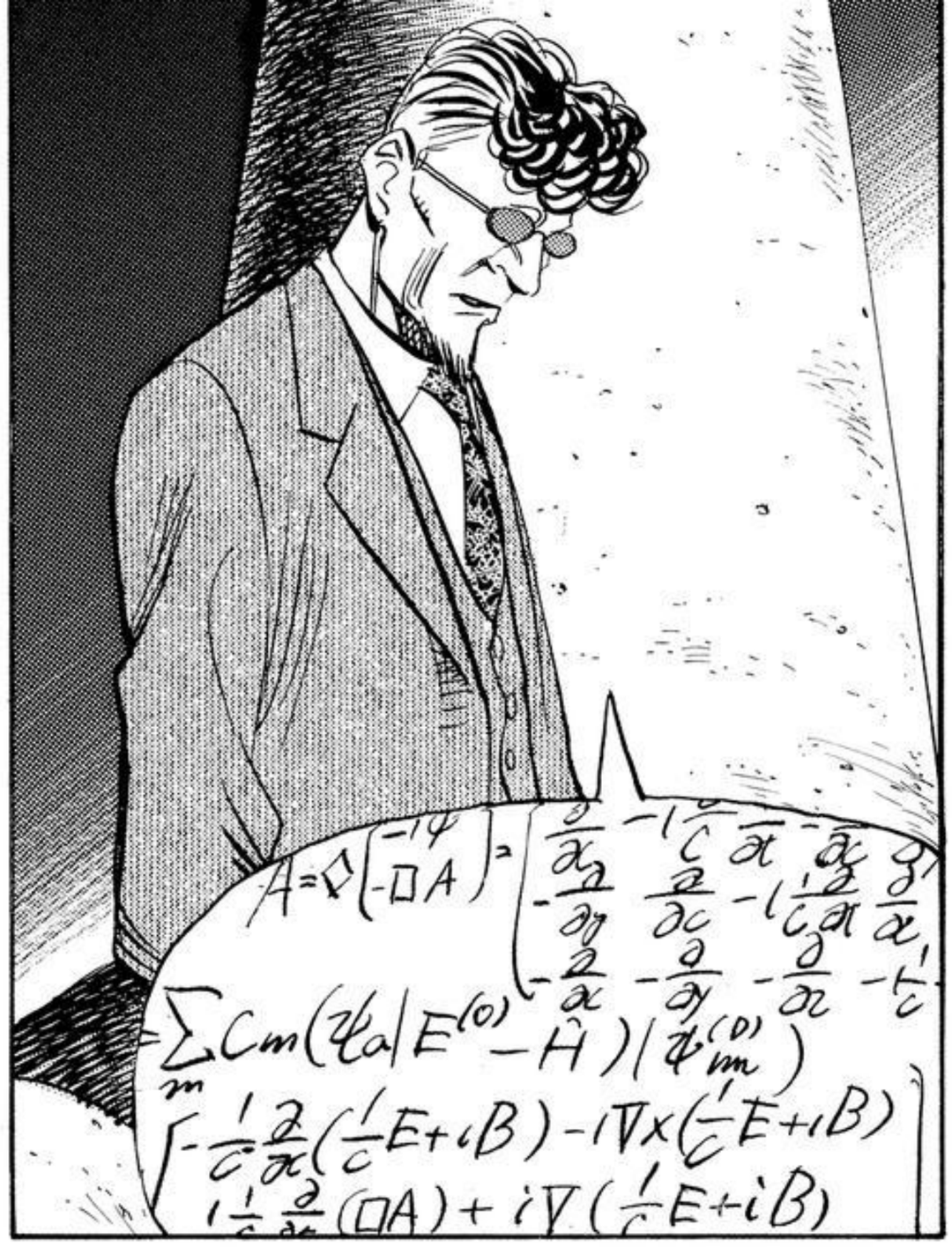
I'M HEAR TO ASK YOU SOME-THING.


ATOM'S WOKEN UP.

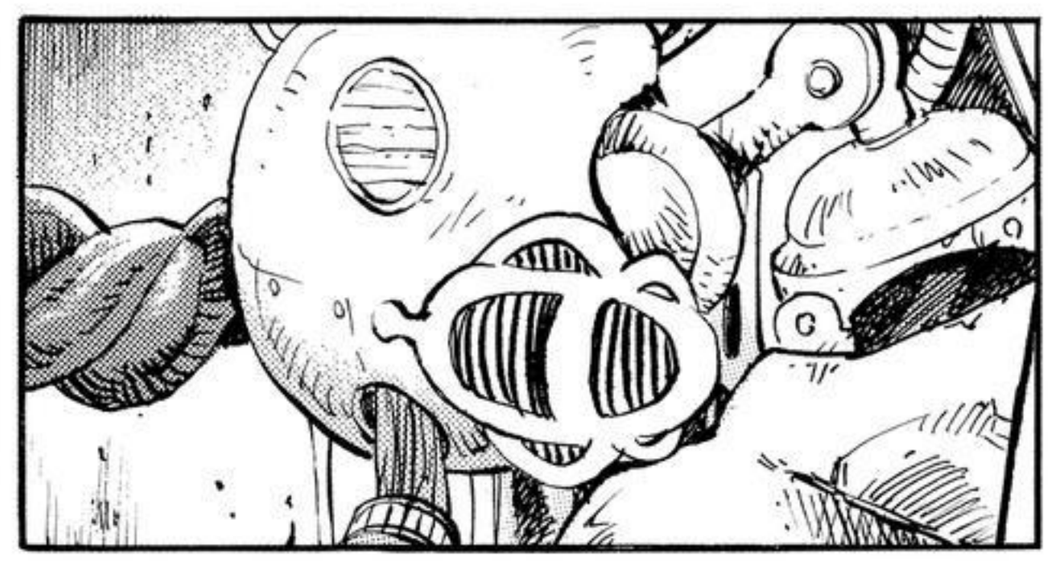

I'LL BE GLAD TO TALK... HEH HEH HEH...
WELL, IF YOU FIX ME UP...


THEY SAID, "GOOD MORNING, DAD!" HEH HEH...
DON'T TELL ME...
VURR

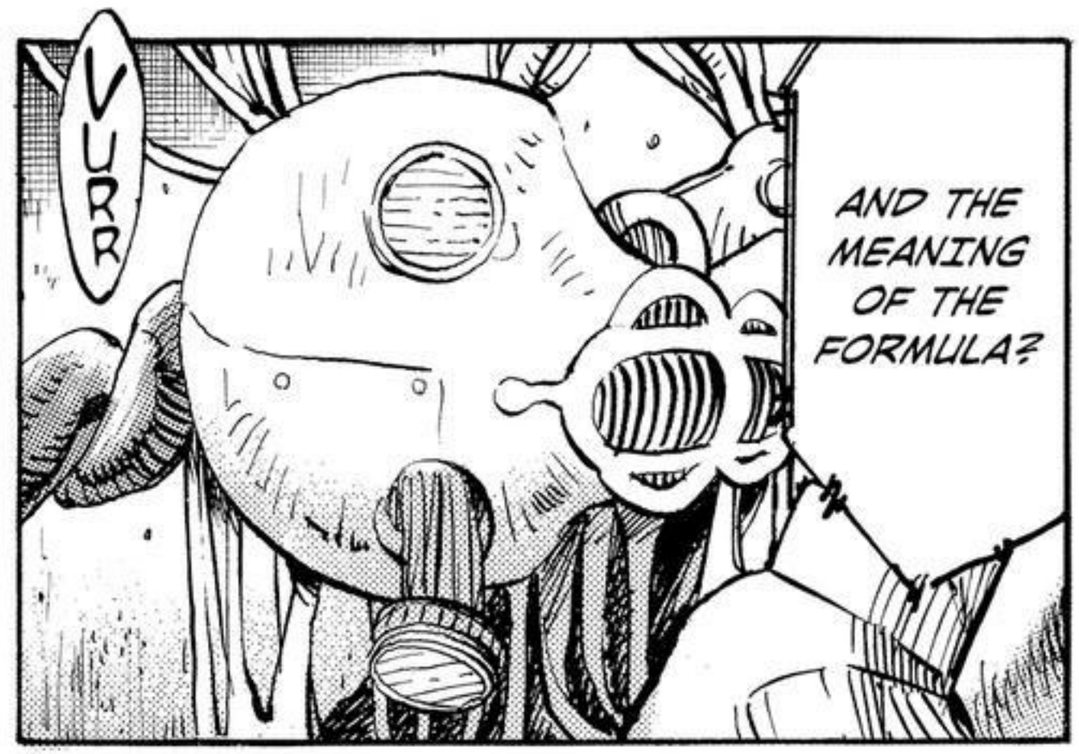
HMM...
BUT THE MOMENT HE GAINED CONSCIOUSNESS, HIS AI BEGAN EMITTING STRANGE BRAIN WAVES...

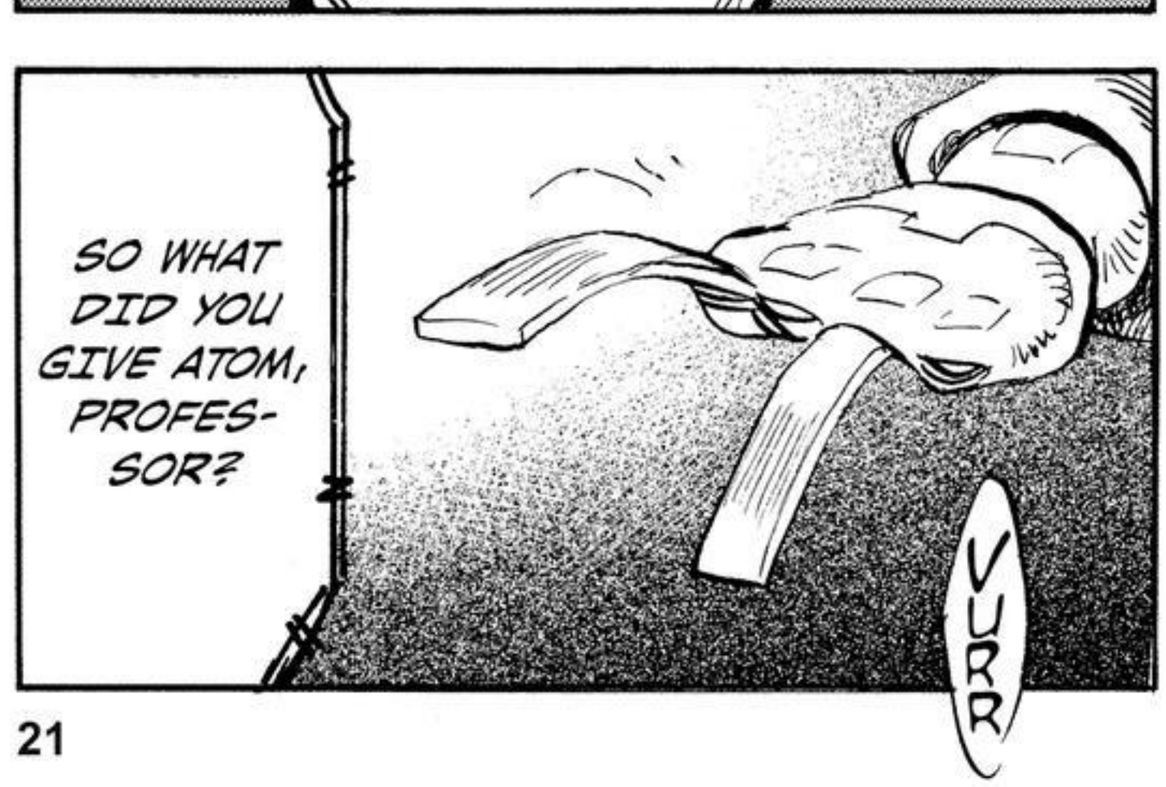


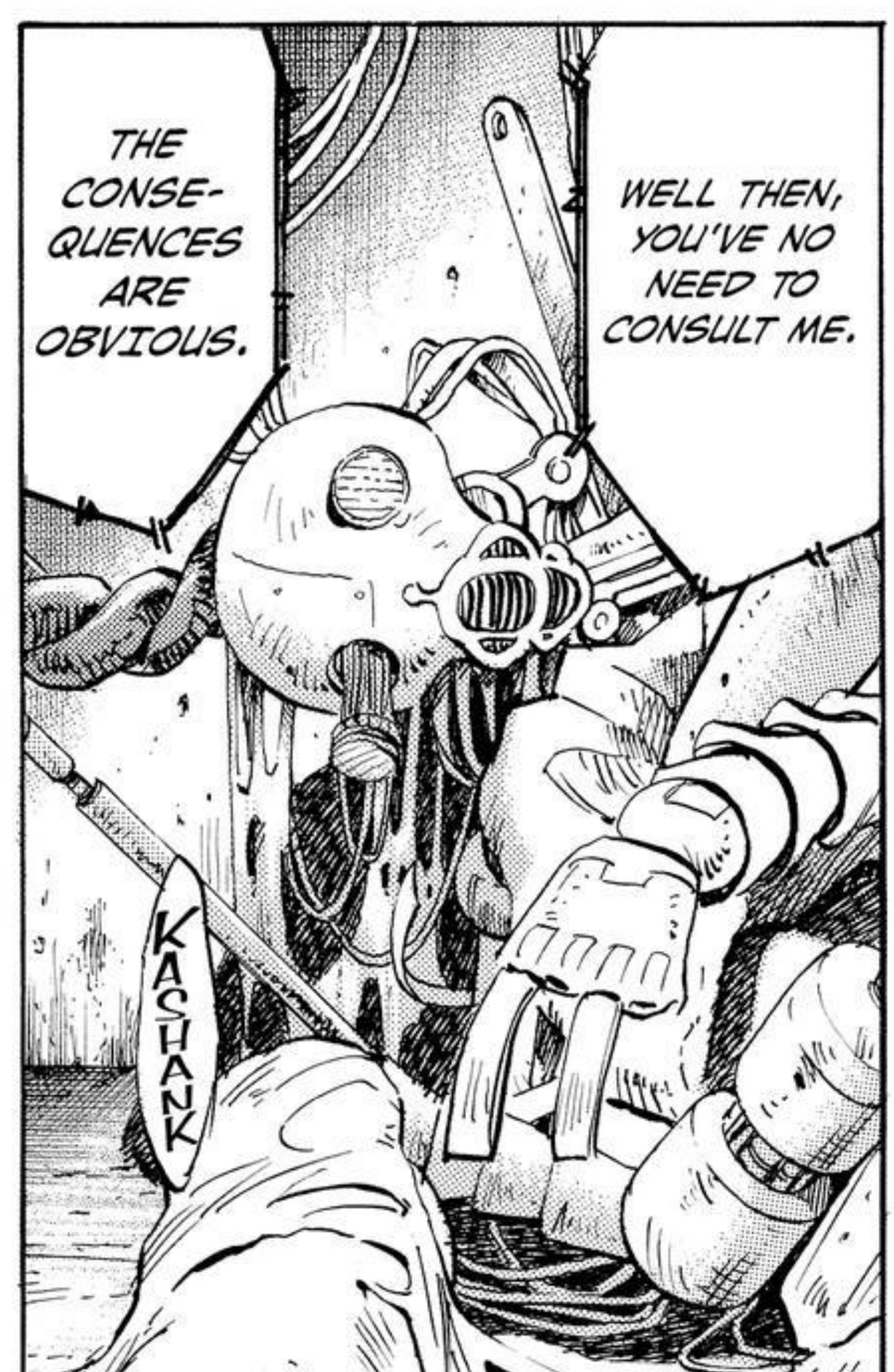
...A MATHE-MATICAL FORMULA ...
NO. THEY REPRE-SENTED ...



I ALREADY KNOW...


VURR
AND THE MEANING OF THE FORMULA?


SO WHAT DID YOU GIVE ATOM, PROFES-SOR?
VURR


THE CONSE-QUENCES ARE OBVIOUS.
WELL THEN, YOU'VE NO NEED TO CONSULT ME.
KASHANK

THE CAPACITY FOR COMPLETE AND TOTAL HATRED?

HEH HEH HEH ...

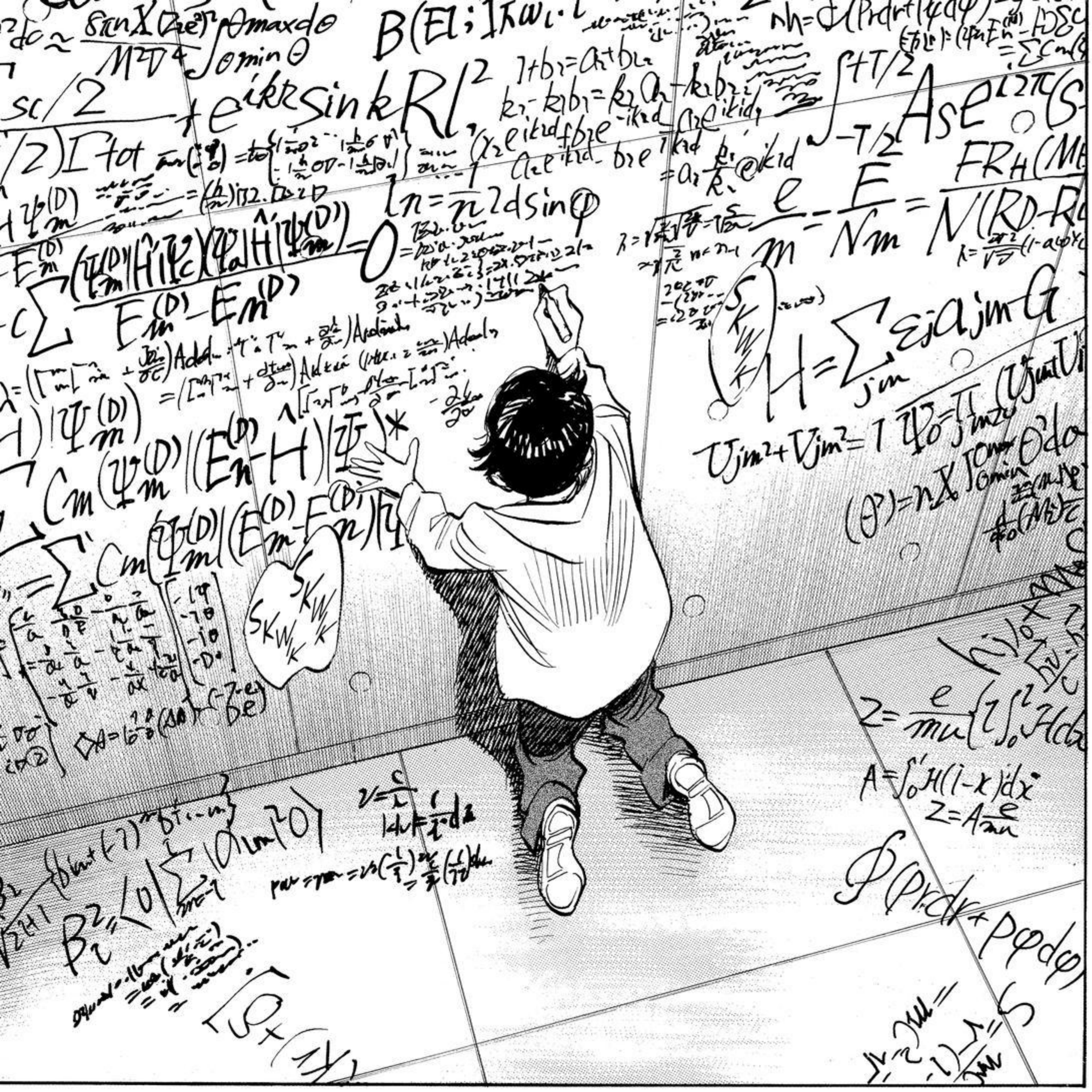
ATOM!!

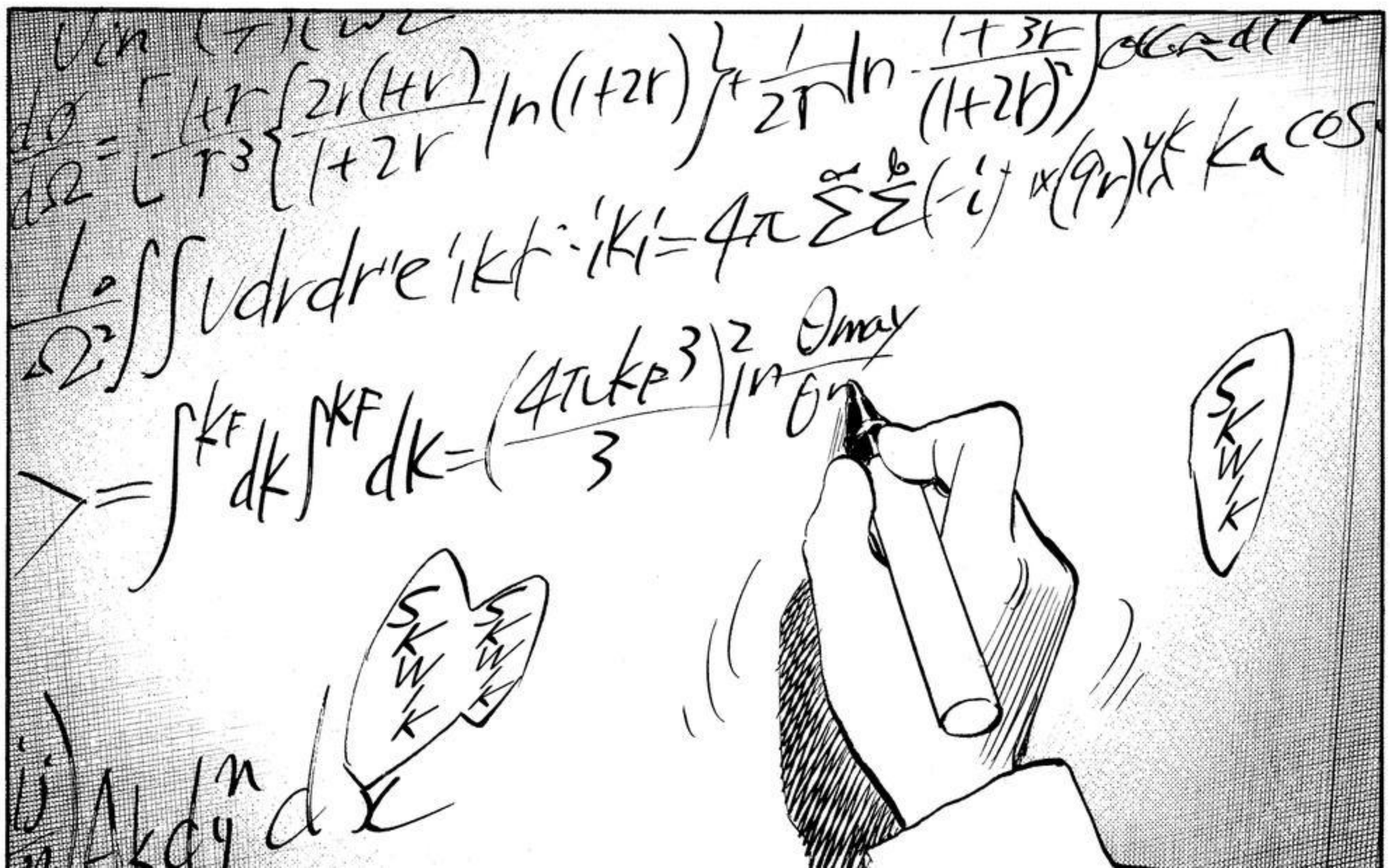
WHAP

AGH!!

LEMME GO!!

W... WHAT'S THAT...?

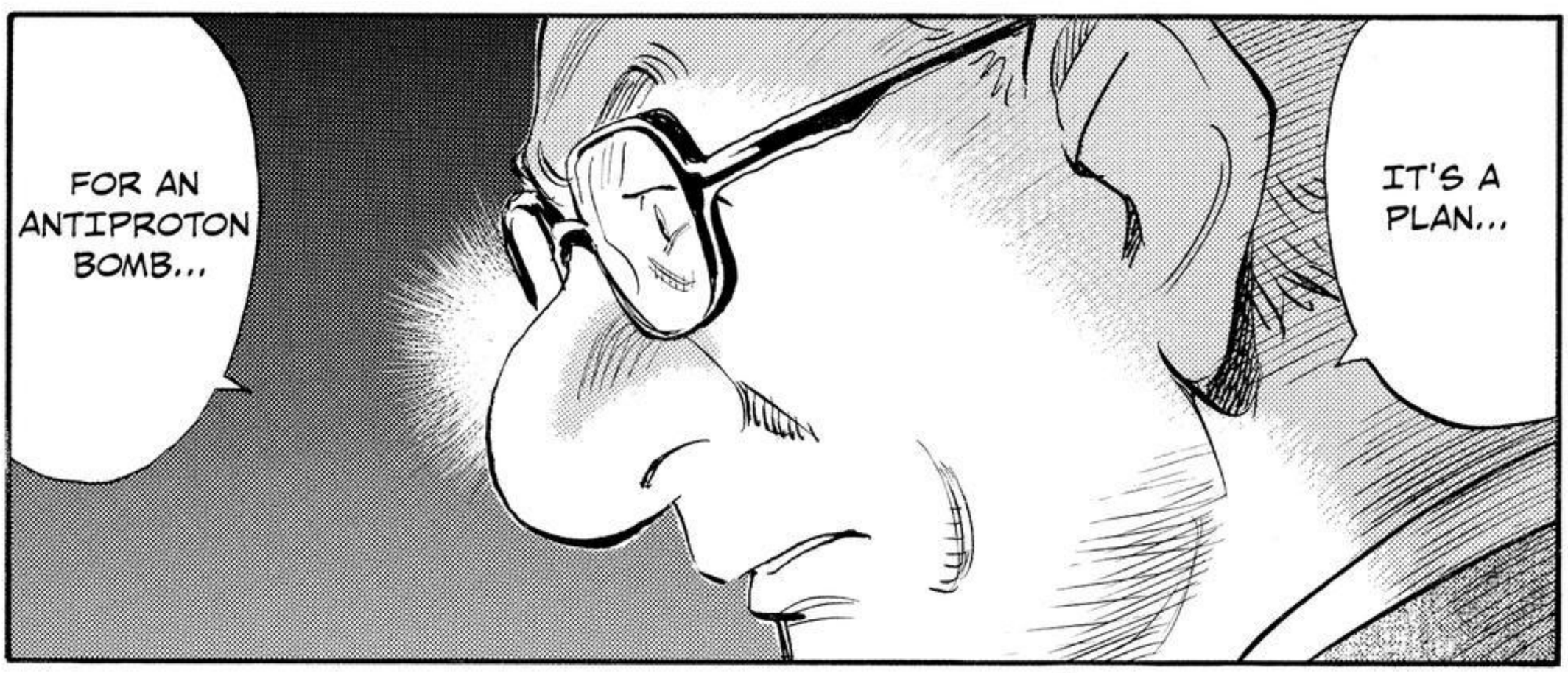




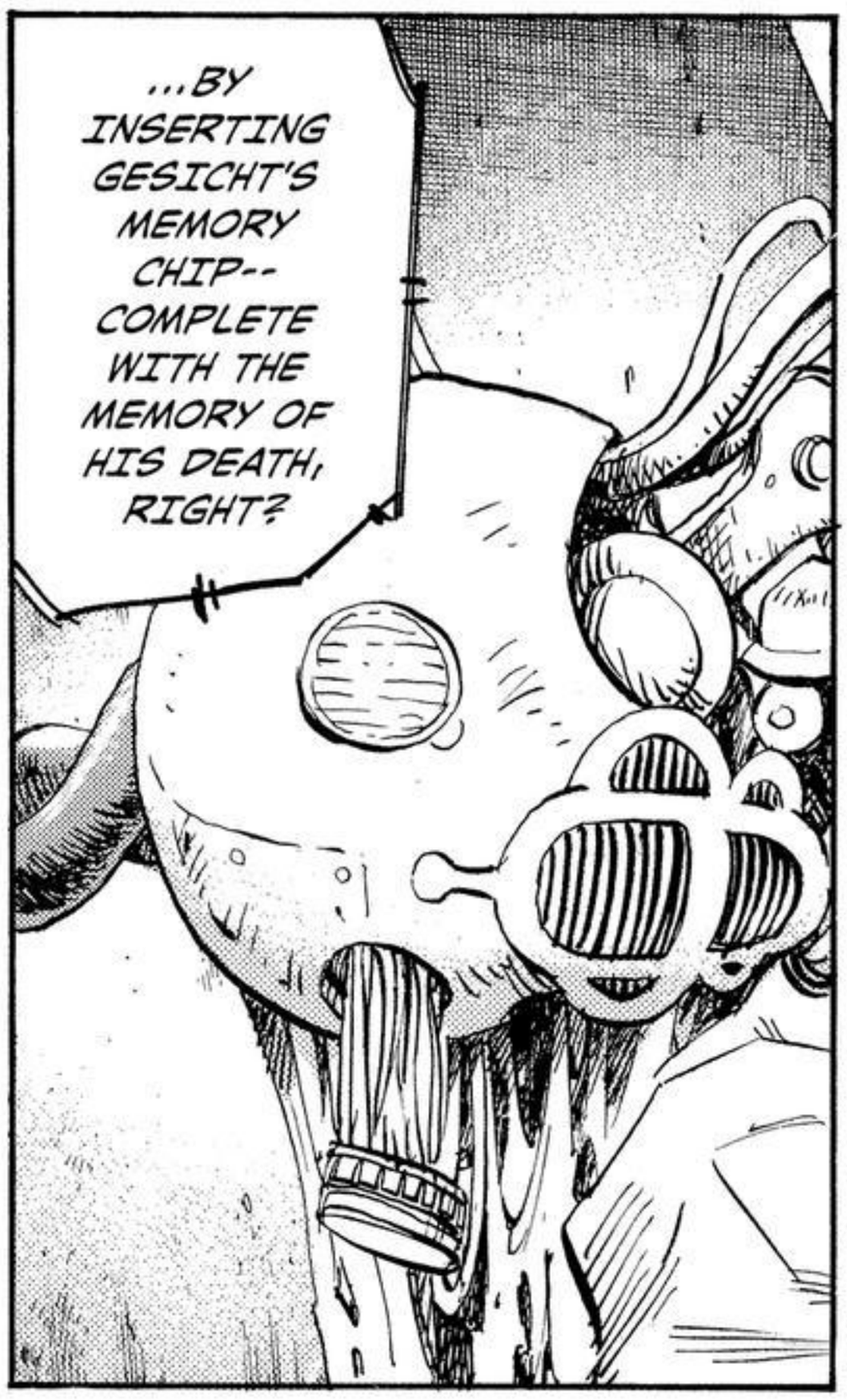
ATOM! WHAT'RE YOU WRITING? ATOM, TELL ME!!

W... WHAT'S THAT FORMULA, PROFES-SOR?

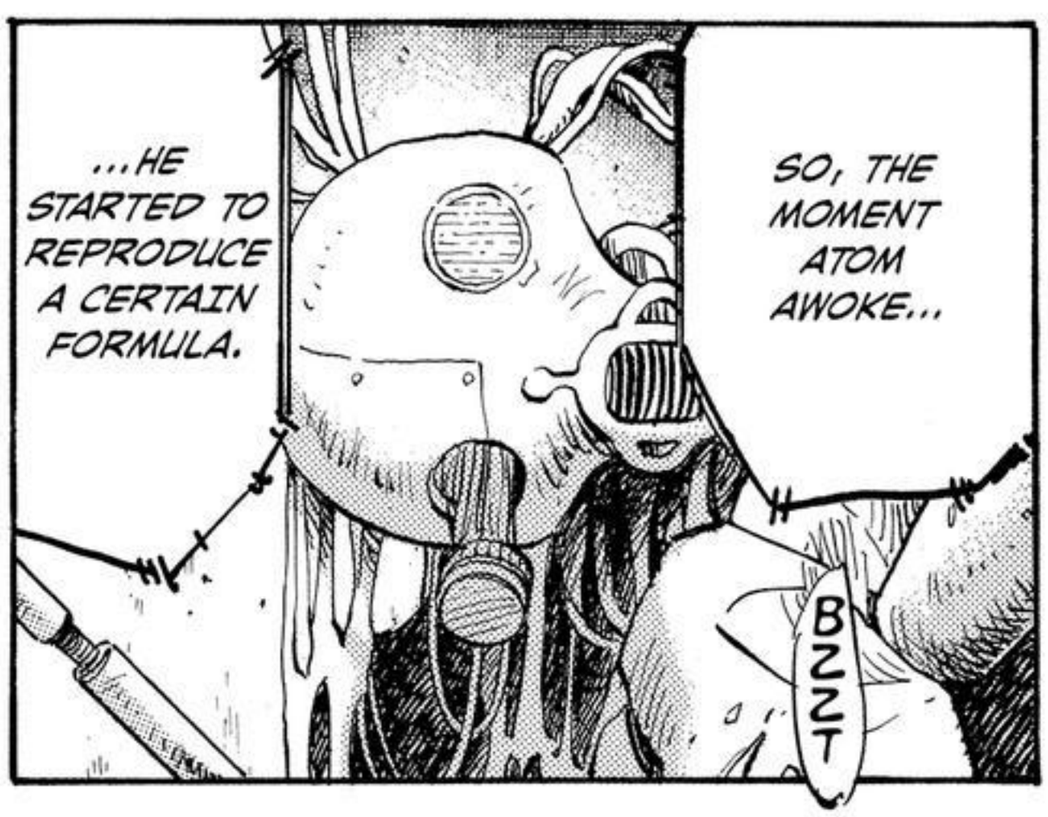
LEMME GO!!
TAKE URAN OUTSIDE...


FOR AN ANTIPROTON BOMB...
IT'S A PLAN...

A... ANTI-PROTON?

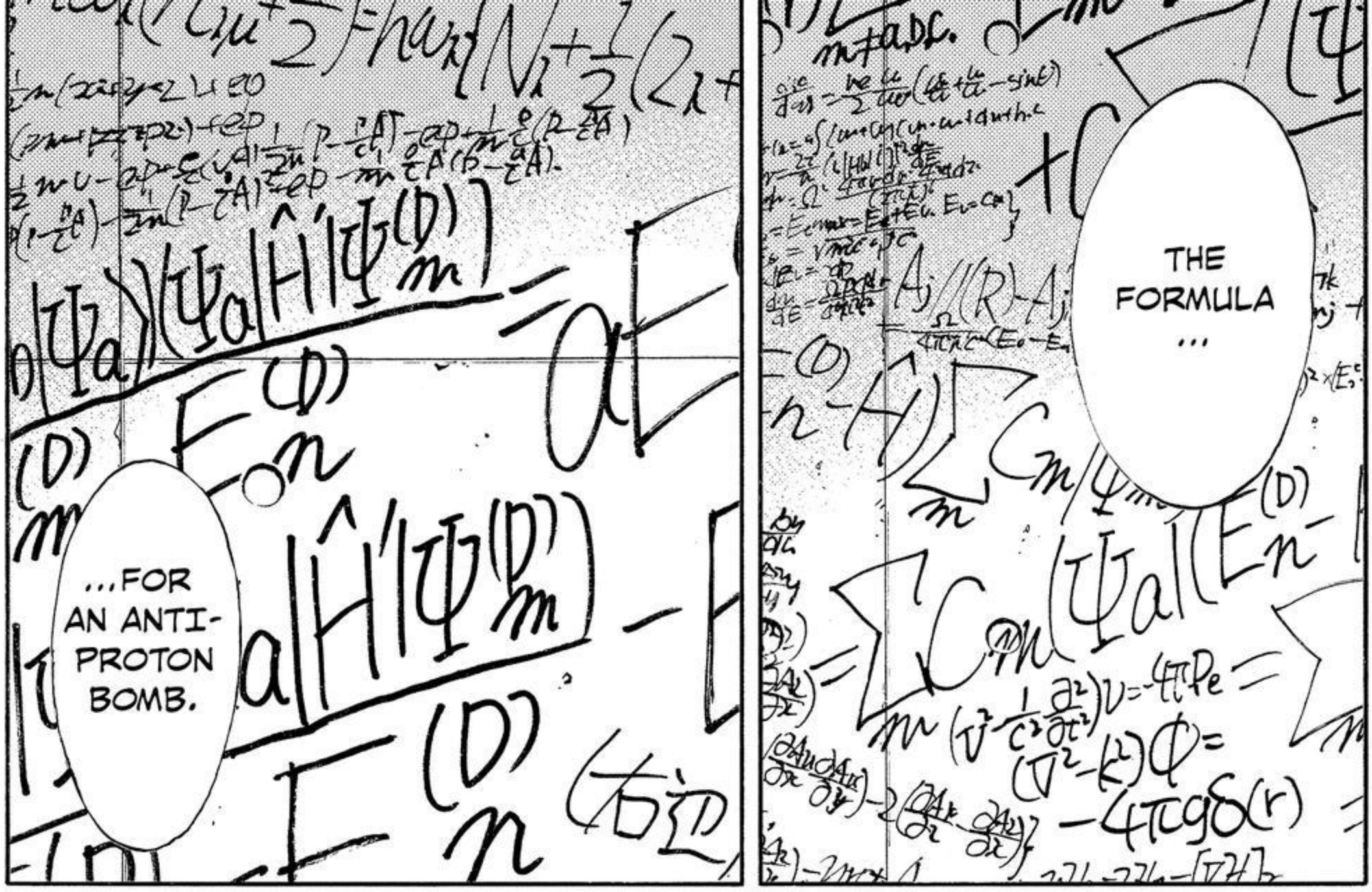

...BY INSERTING GESICHT'S MEMORY CHIP-- COMPLETE WITH THE MEMORY OF HIS DEATH, RIGHT?

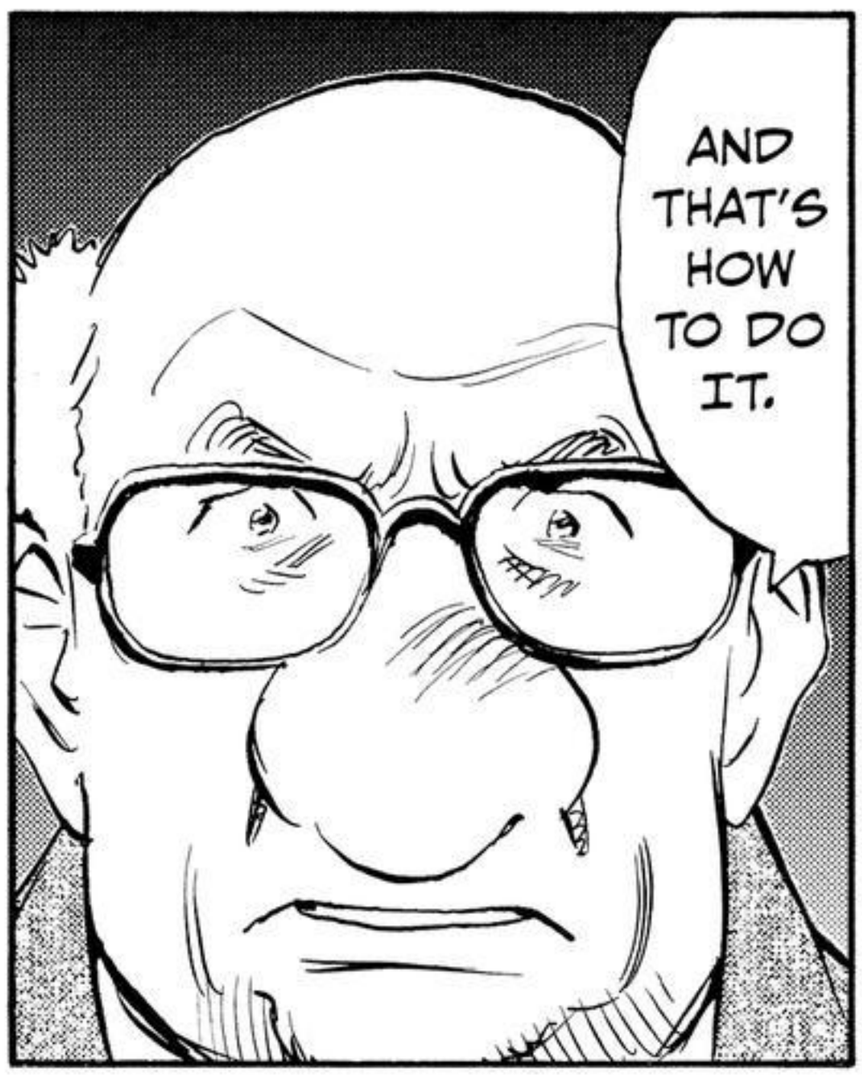
AND YOU DID IT...
YOU INTRODUCED HATRED INTO ATOM, DIDN'T YOU...

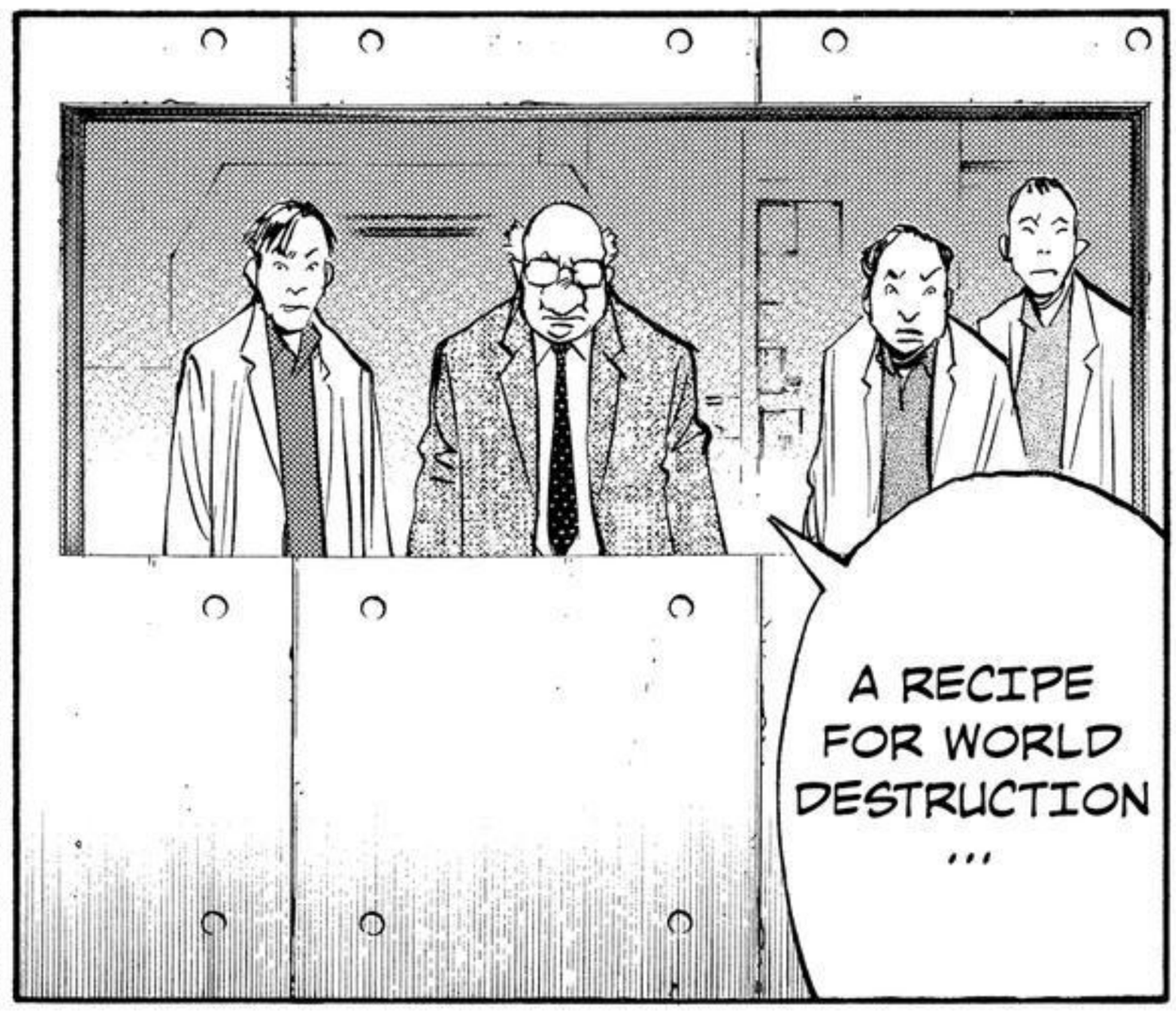

...HE STARTED TO REPRODUCE A CERTAIN FORMULA.
SO, THE MOMENT ATOM AWOKE...
BZZT

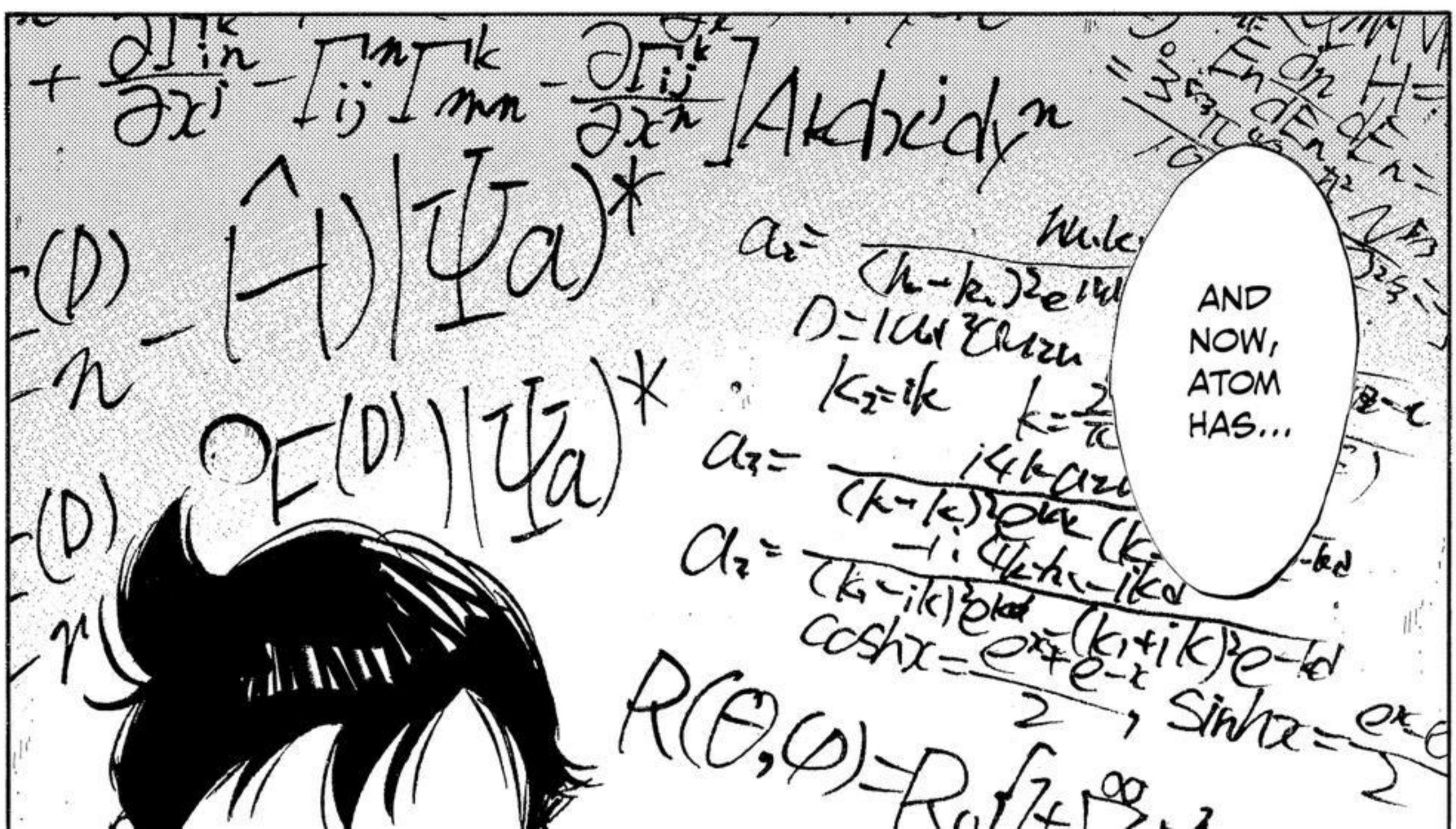
YES... HEH HEH HEH...
VURR
THE FORMULA FOR AN ANTIPROTON BOMB...
BZZT
VRRT

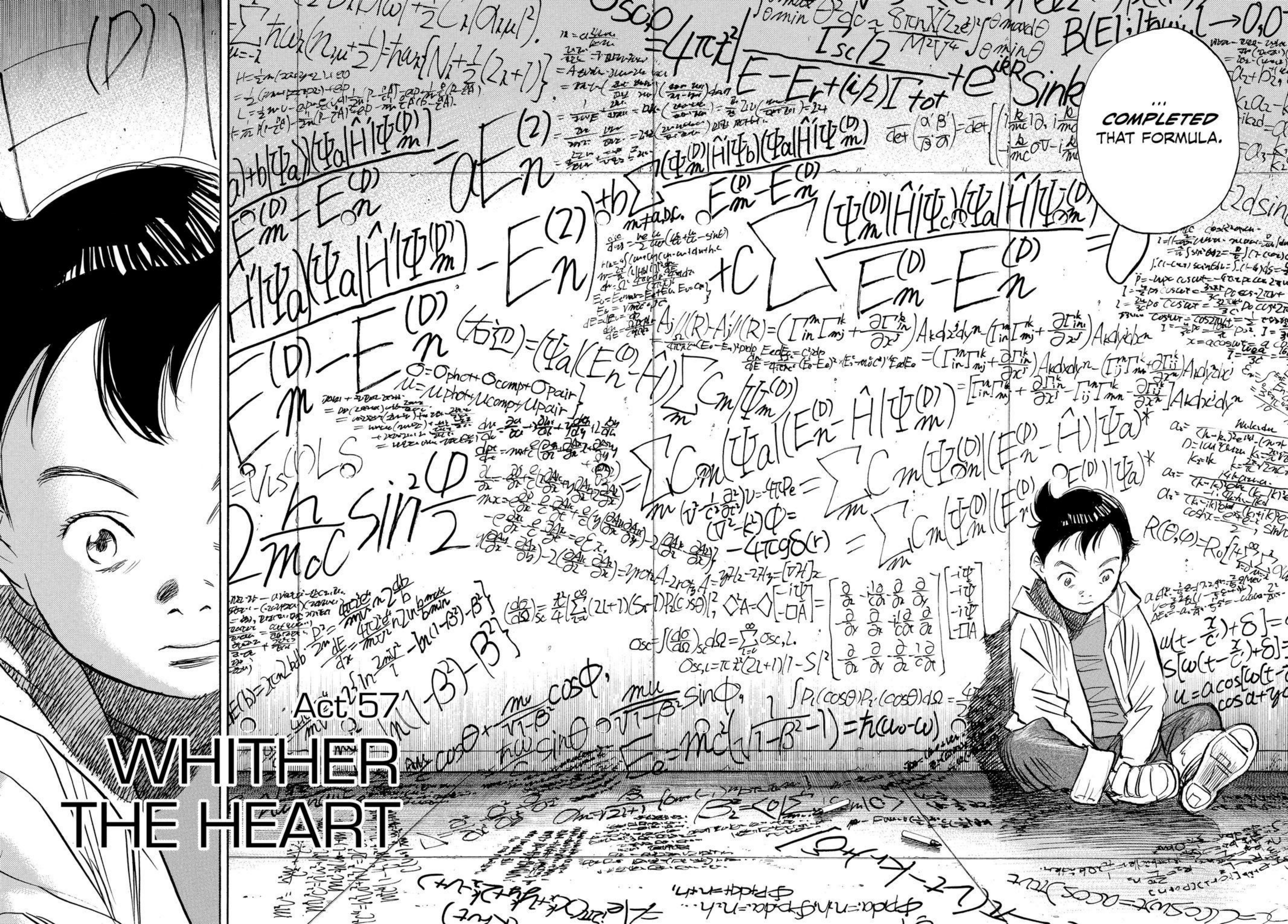
IT'S A FORMULA ...
FOR THE DESTRUCTION OF THE WORLD.
SKWK
SKWK


...FOR AN ANTI-PROTON BOMB.
THE FORMULA ...


AND THAT'S HOW TO DO IT.


A RECIPE FOR WORLD DESTRUCTION ...


AND NOW, ATOM HAS...



Act 57

WHITHER THE HEART

LONG, LONG AGO, IN THE LAND OF MANU KATCHE, THERE LIVED A TRIBE CALLED THE NANABU...

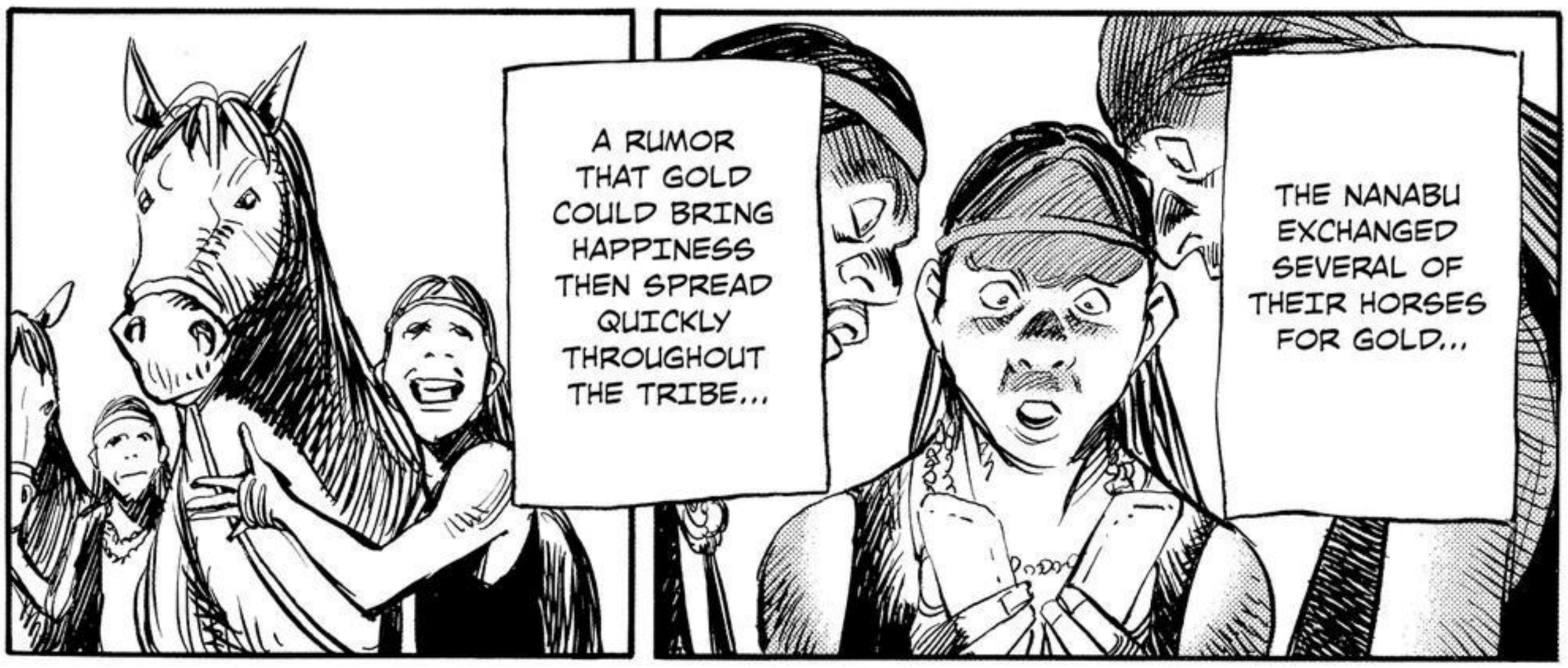
THE NANABU WERE A PEACEFUL PEOPLE WHO HATED FIGHTING...

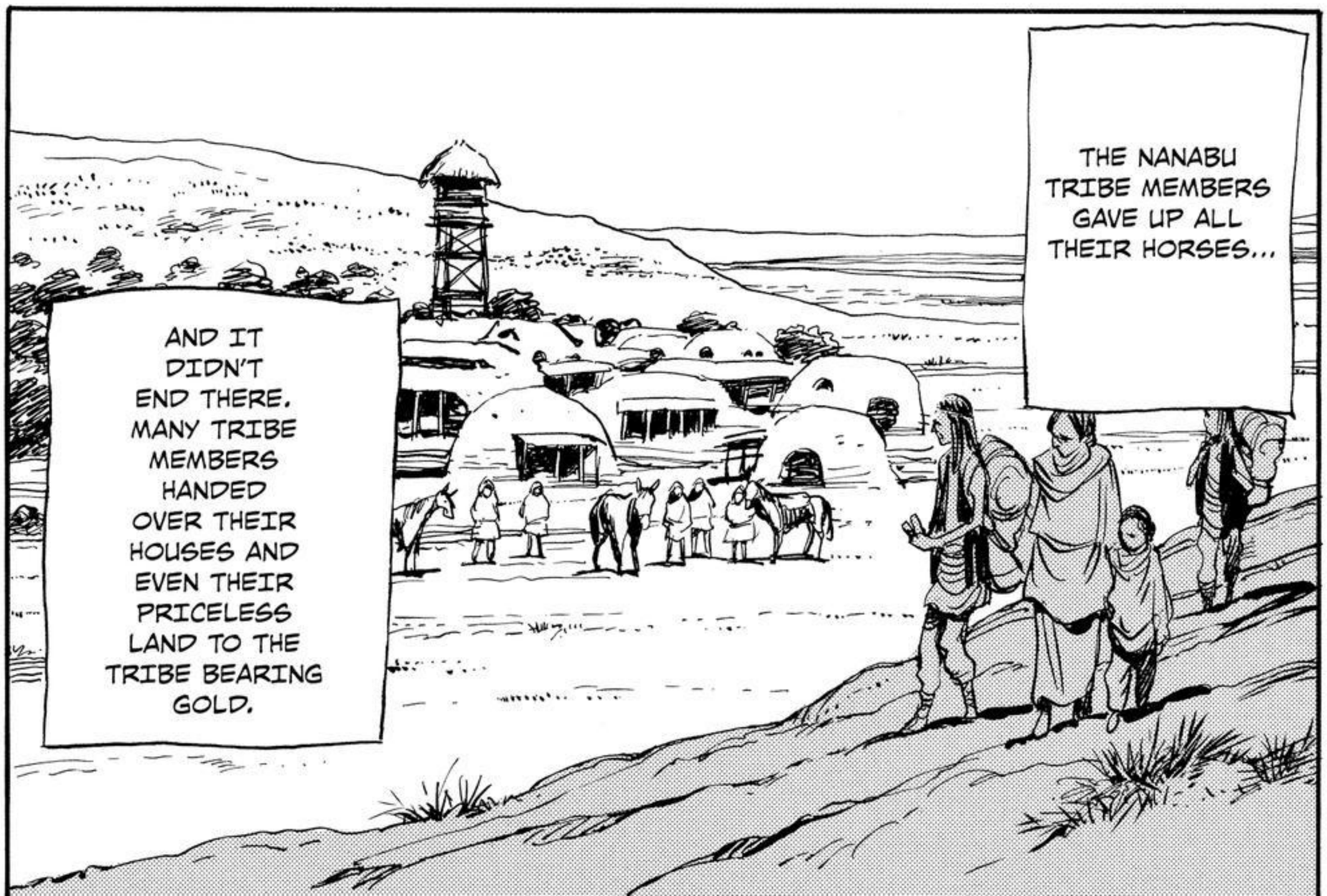
THE TRIBE BEARING GOLD TOLD THE NANABU SOMETHING ASTONISHING.

BUT ONE DAY A TRIBE BEARING GOLD ARRIVED IN SHIPS.

AND THEN THEY OFFERED TO TRADE THEIR GOLD FOR HORSES.

"WHOEVER POSSESSES GOLD SHALL ALSO POSSESS HAPPINESS."





AS A RESULT THE NANABU LOST EVERYTHING.

AND THERE THEY PLUNGED, ONE AFTER ANOTHER, TO THEIR DEATHS.

THEY WERE HUNTED, DRIVEN TO THE CRATER OF THE MT. MANABONZO VOLCANO...

A GIANT THAT PURPORTEDLY SLEEPS DEEP IN THE VOLCANO...

THE COLLECTIVE SPIRIT OF THE NANABU IS SAID TO HAVE TRANSFORMED ITSELF INTO A TOWERING GIANT...

EDEN TRA

SO YOU SEE, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN... IT'S HERE IN THIS NATIONAL PARK, RIGHT HERE IN EDEN, WHERE THE OLD LEGEND SAYS THAT THE NANABU WILL SOMEDAY RISE AGAIN...

HE'S CHANTING INCANTATIONS-- TO WARD OFF ANY EVIL THAT MIGHT THREATEN THE VILLAGE.
THAT'S TSE TSE MAR, THE TRIBAL ELDER.

AN EVIL SPIRIT LURKS BENEATH THE EARTH...
LESSEE...
WHAT'S HE MUMBLING? CAN YOU TRANSLATE FOR US?

IT SHALL BE REBORN...

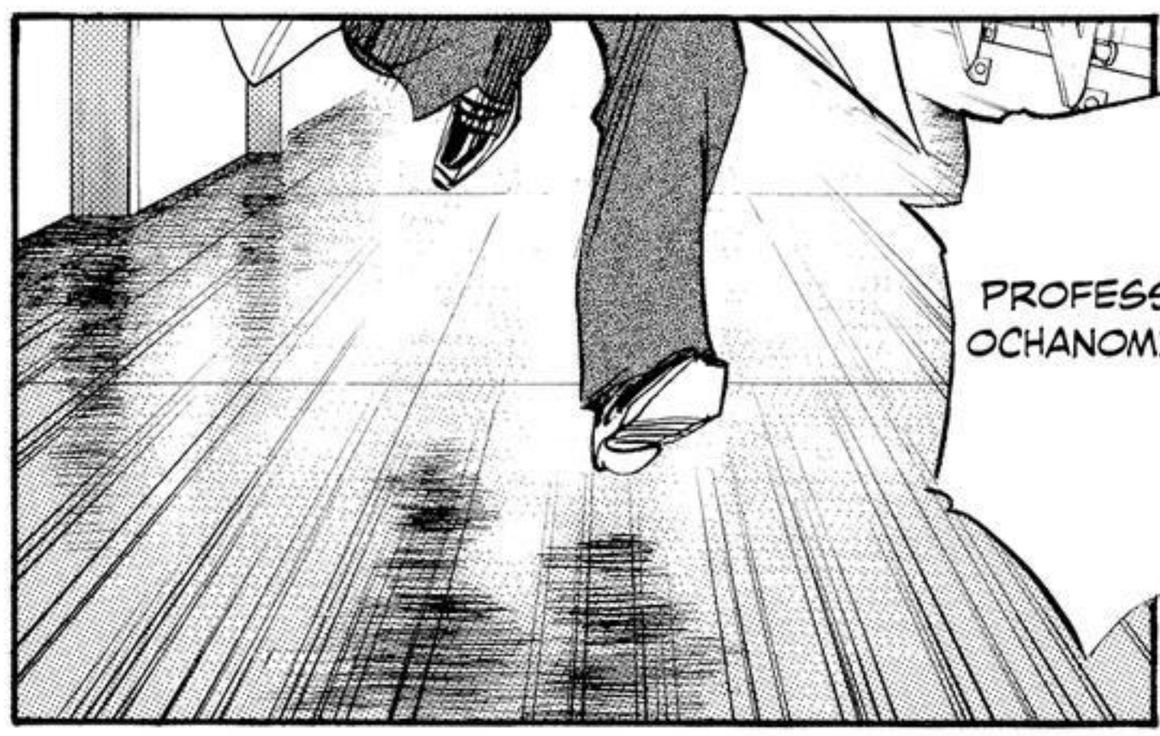
HATRED ...
UNDER-GROUND ...

AND THIS WORLD SHALL END...
RUMBLE

RUMBLE

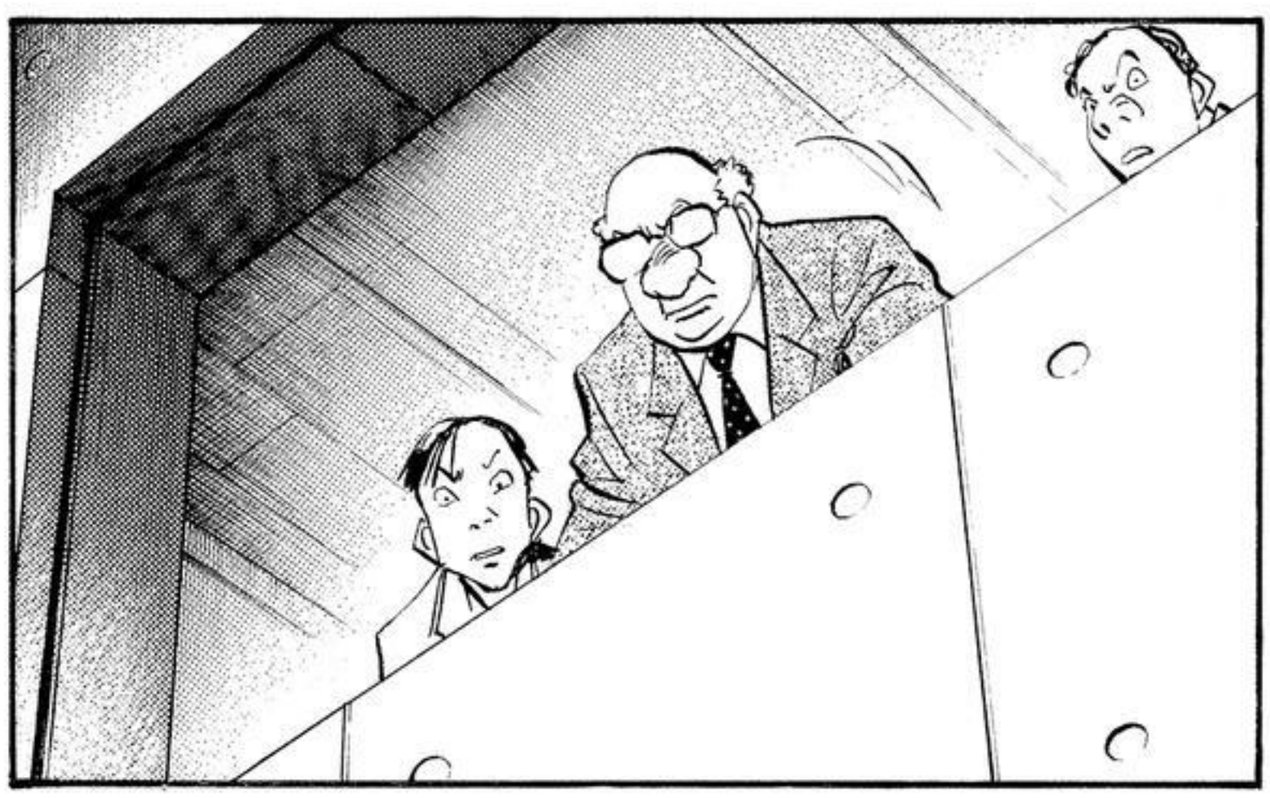
WAH!!
RUMBLE

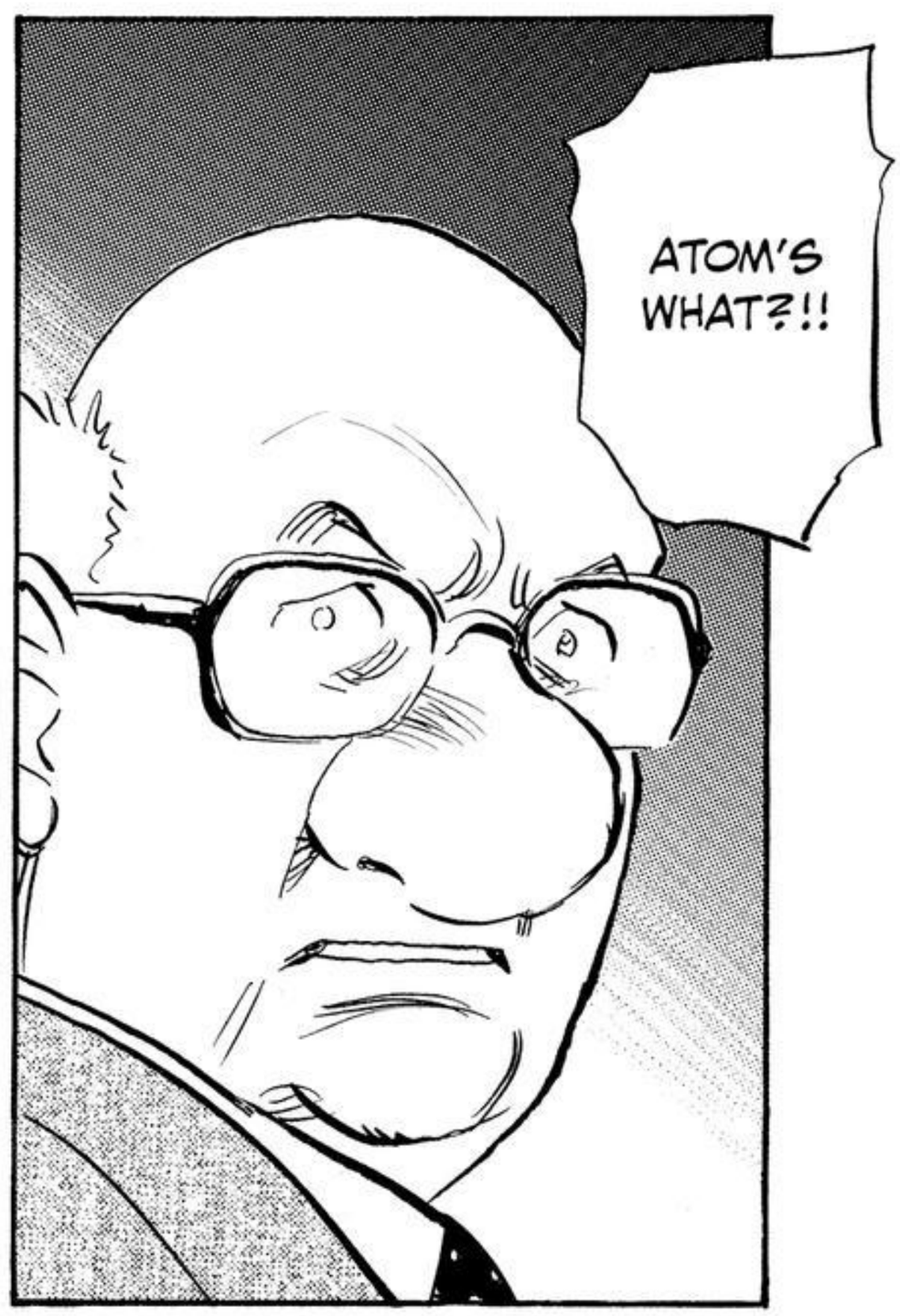
EARTH-QUAKE!!
RUMBLE

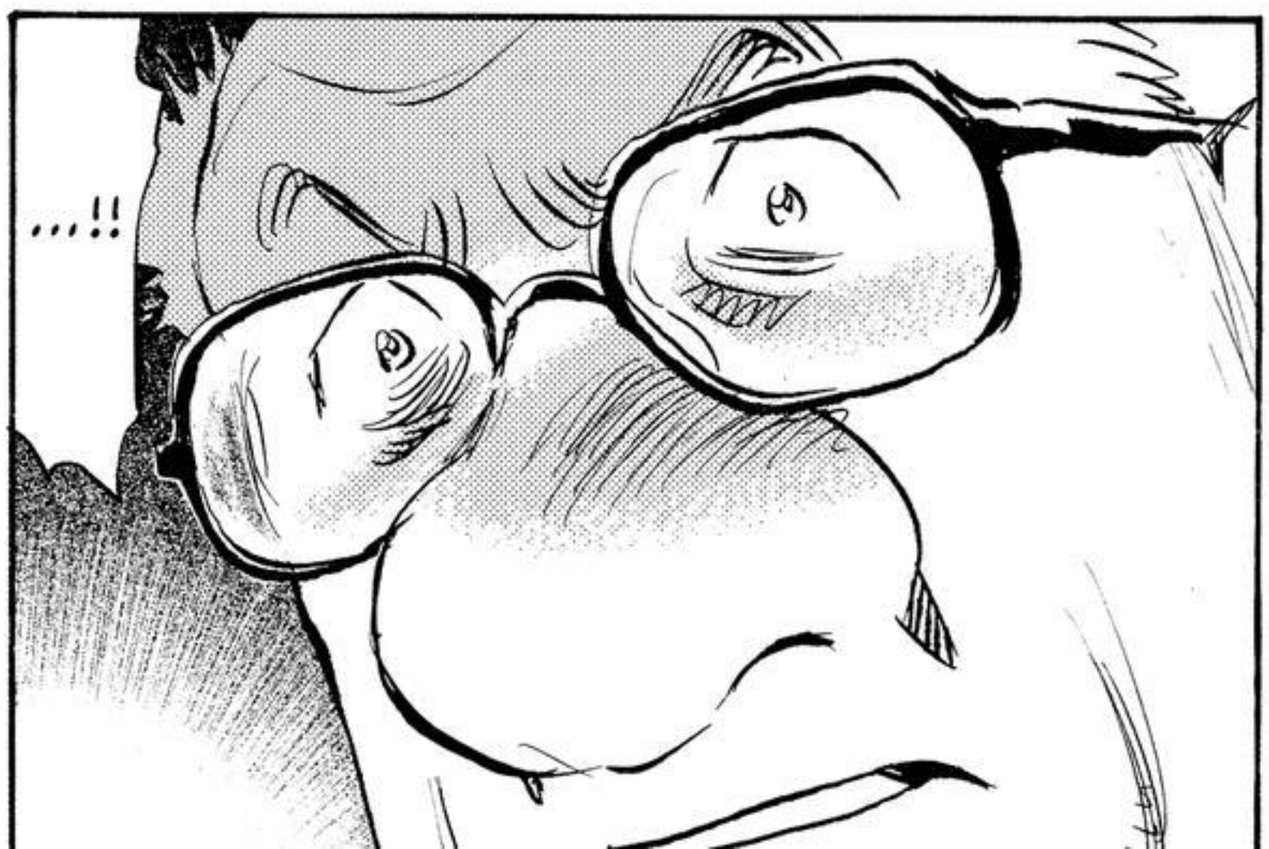

PROFESSOR OCHANOMIZU!

MINISTRY OF SCIENCE, TOKYO CITY

WE'VE GOT AN EMERGENCY!

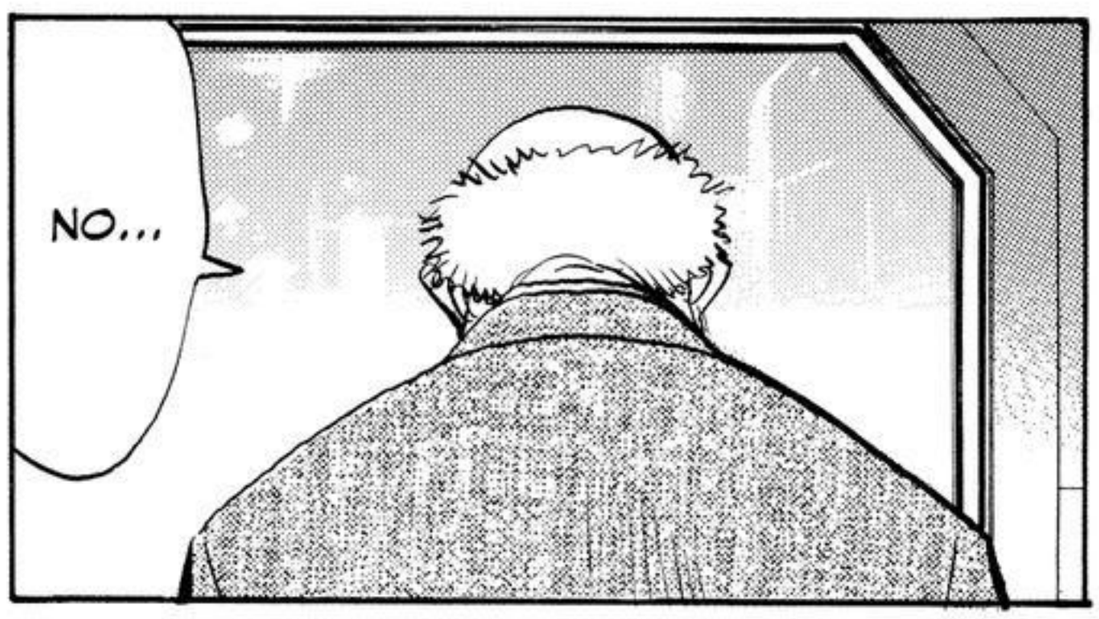


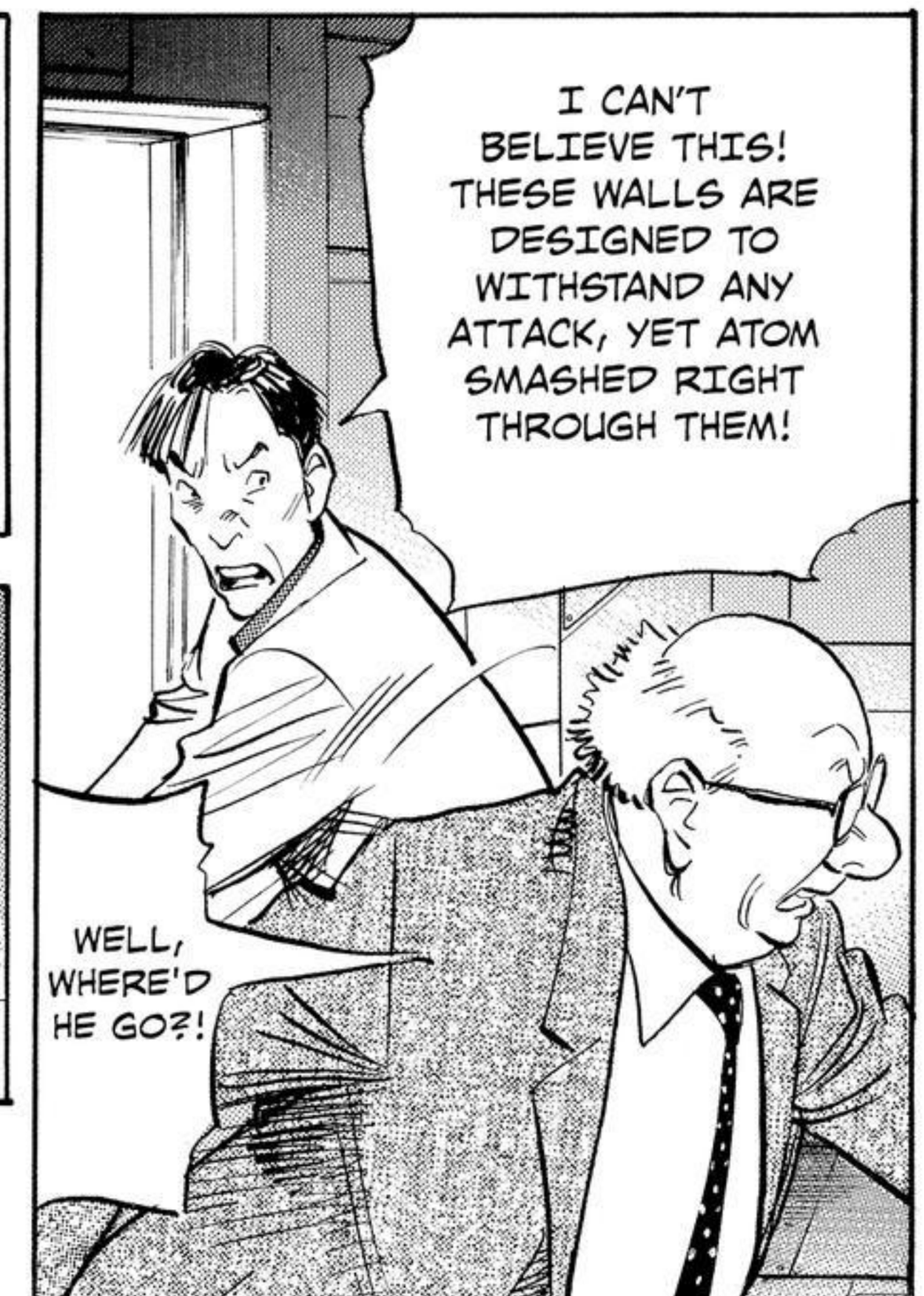

ATOM'S WHAT?!!

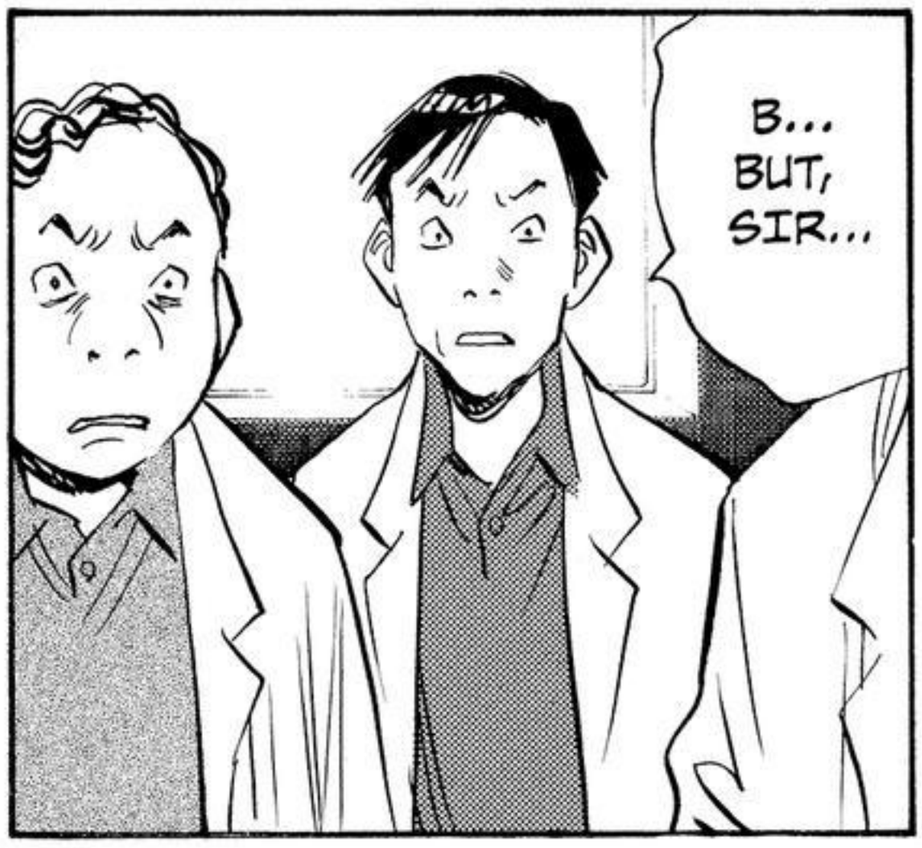

...!!

HE'S ESCAPED ...?!

WE HAVE TO CALL FOR HELP FROM THE MILITARY, SIR!
WE'VE GOT A GPS READING ON HIM, SIR!


NO...


I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS! THESE WALLS ARE DESIGNED TO WITHSTAND ANY ATTACK, YET ATOM SMASHED RIGHT THROUGH THEM!
WELL, WHERE'D HE GO?!


B... BUT, SIR...

I'LL...
I'LL TAKE CARE OF THIS MYSELF.

PROFESSOR TENMA, JUST WHAT DID YOU DO TO ATOM...?

WHY DID YOU INSERT THAT CHIP...?

AT LEAST HE HASN'T GONE FAR.
HE APPEARS TO BE IN KUDANSHITA RIGHT NOW...
KLAK
KLAK

NO! IT CAN'T BE...
I KNEW THERE WAS A WAY TO MAKE IT WAKE UP THOUGH...

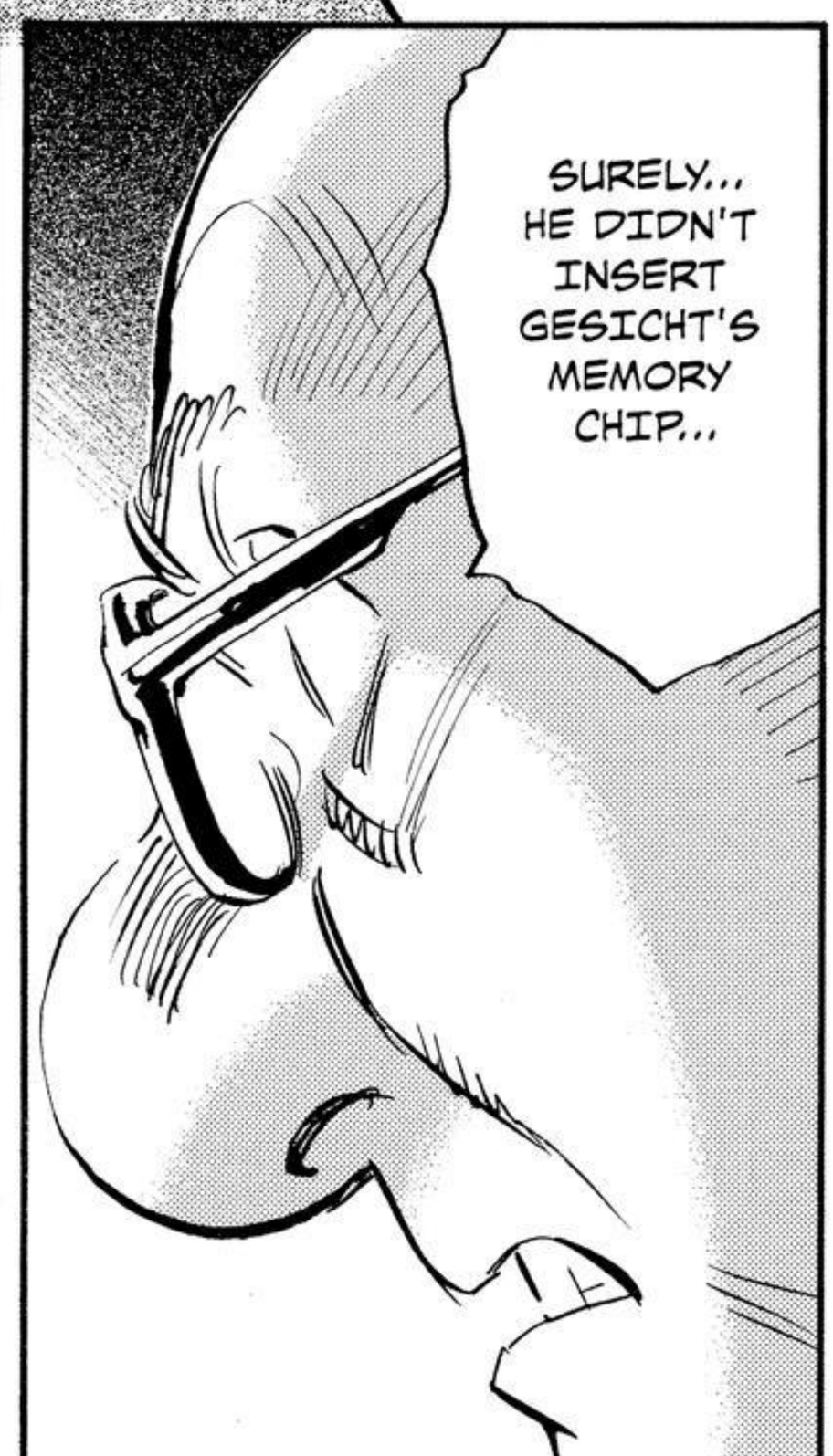
...!!

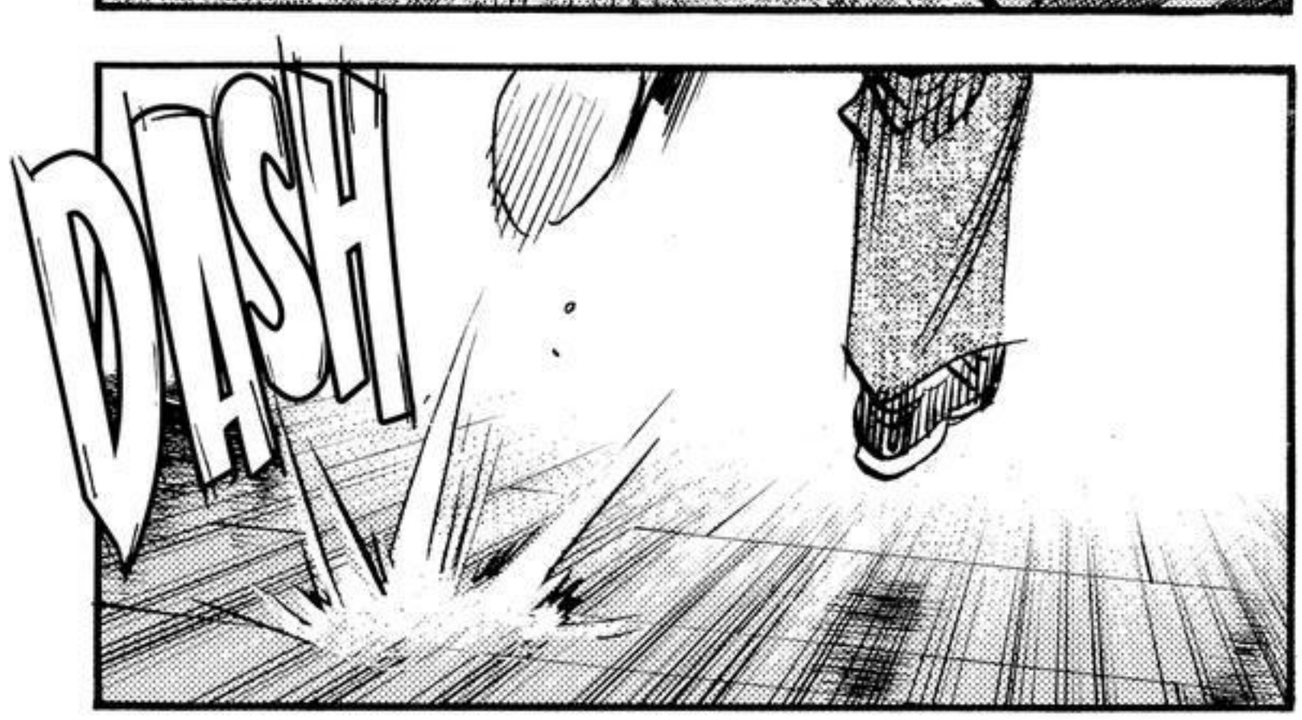
IT JUST REQUIRED THROWING THINGS OFF BALANCE...

ANGER ...
BY DESTROYING THE BALANCE ...
SADNESS ...
HATRED ...

...
HE SAID SOMETHING ABOUT INSERTING A CHIP...

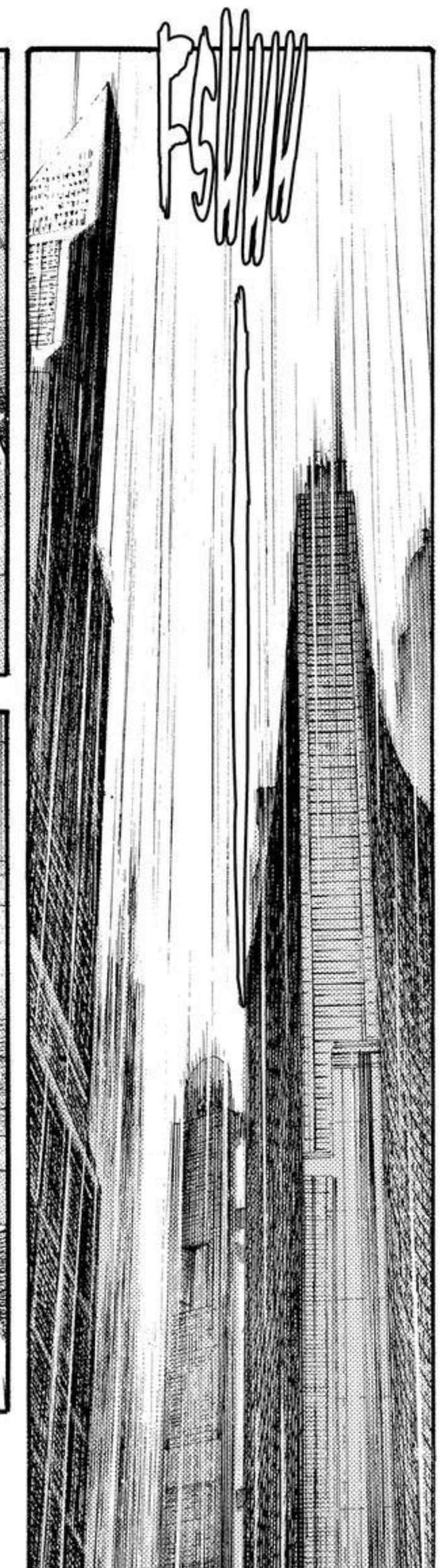
THAT CHIP WOULD'VE RECORDED HIS FINAL MOMENTS...

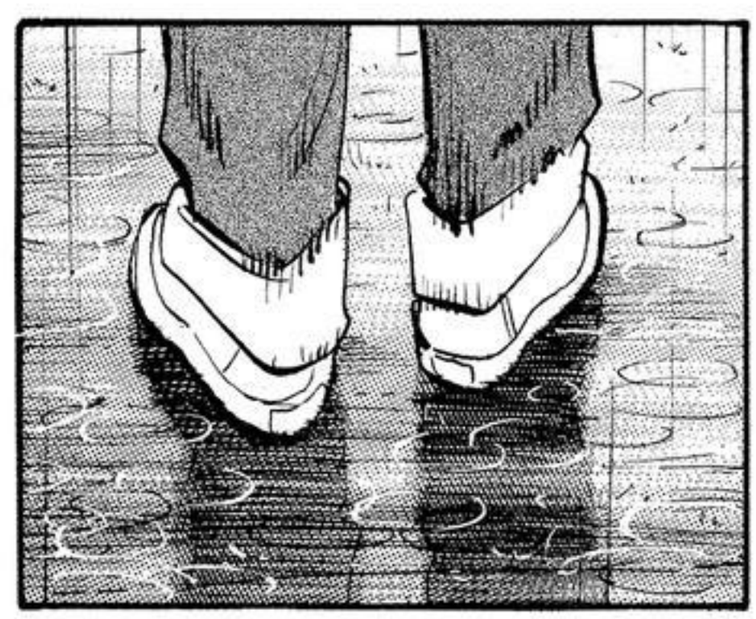

SURELY... HE DIDN'T INSERT GESICHT'S MEMORY CHIP...

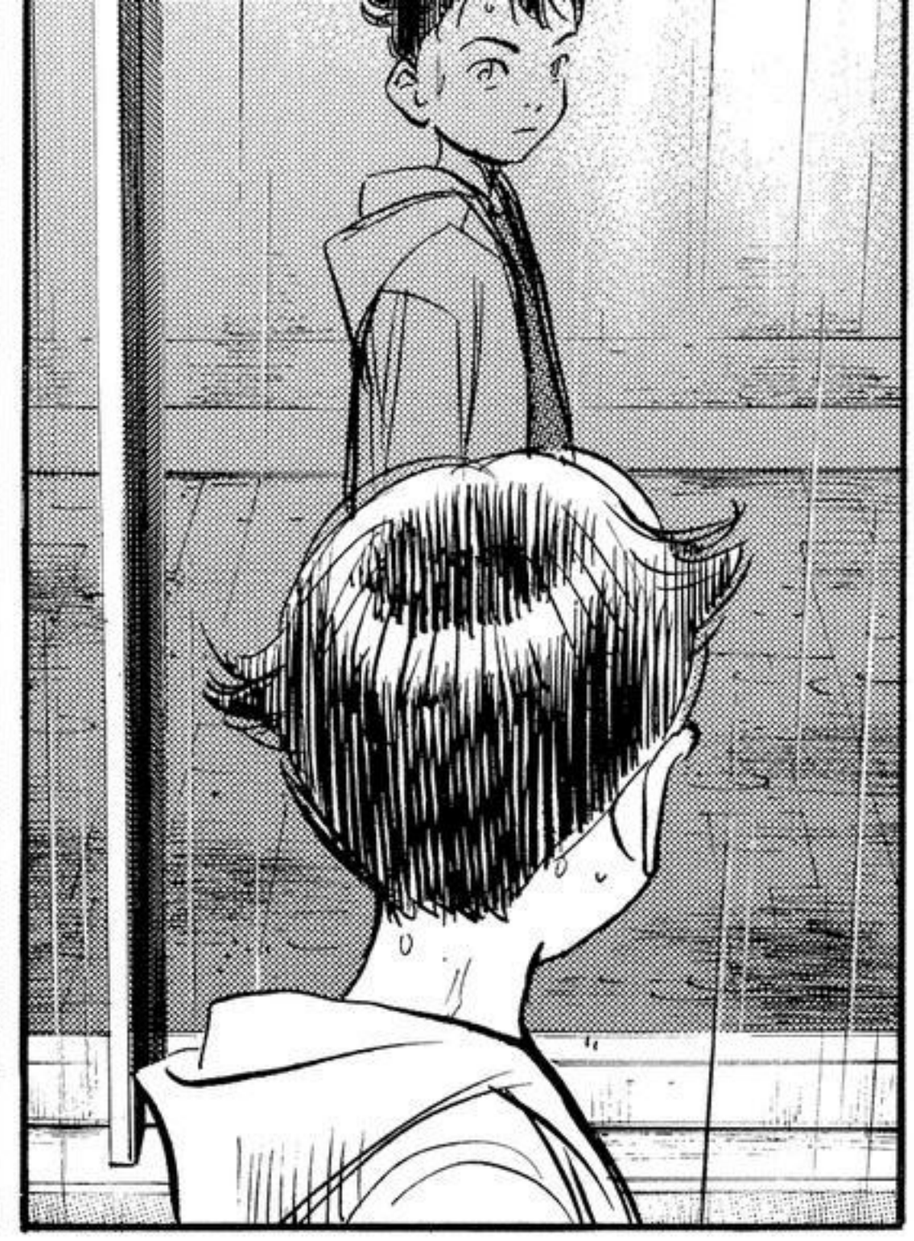

DASH

DASH

AND IF THOSE FINAL MOMENTS INCLUDED *HATRED...*



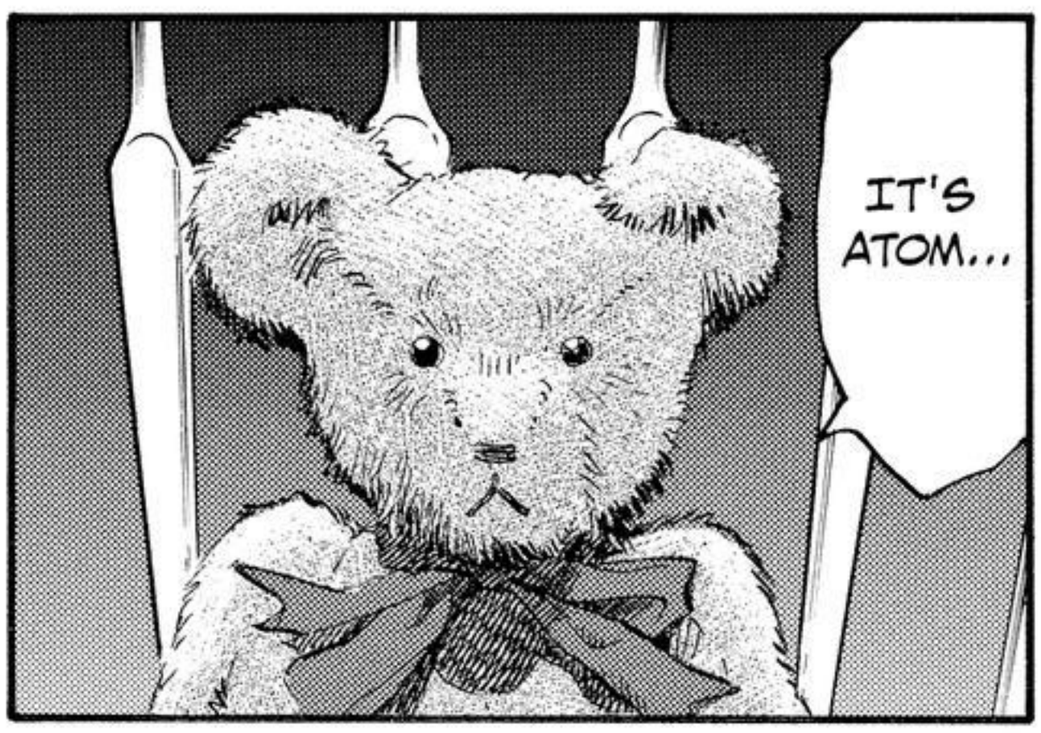


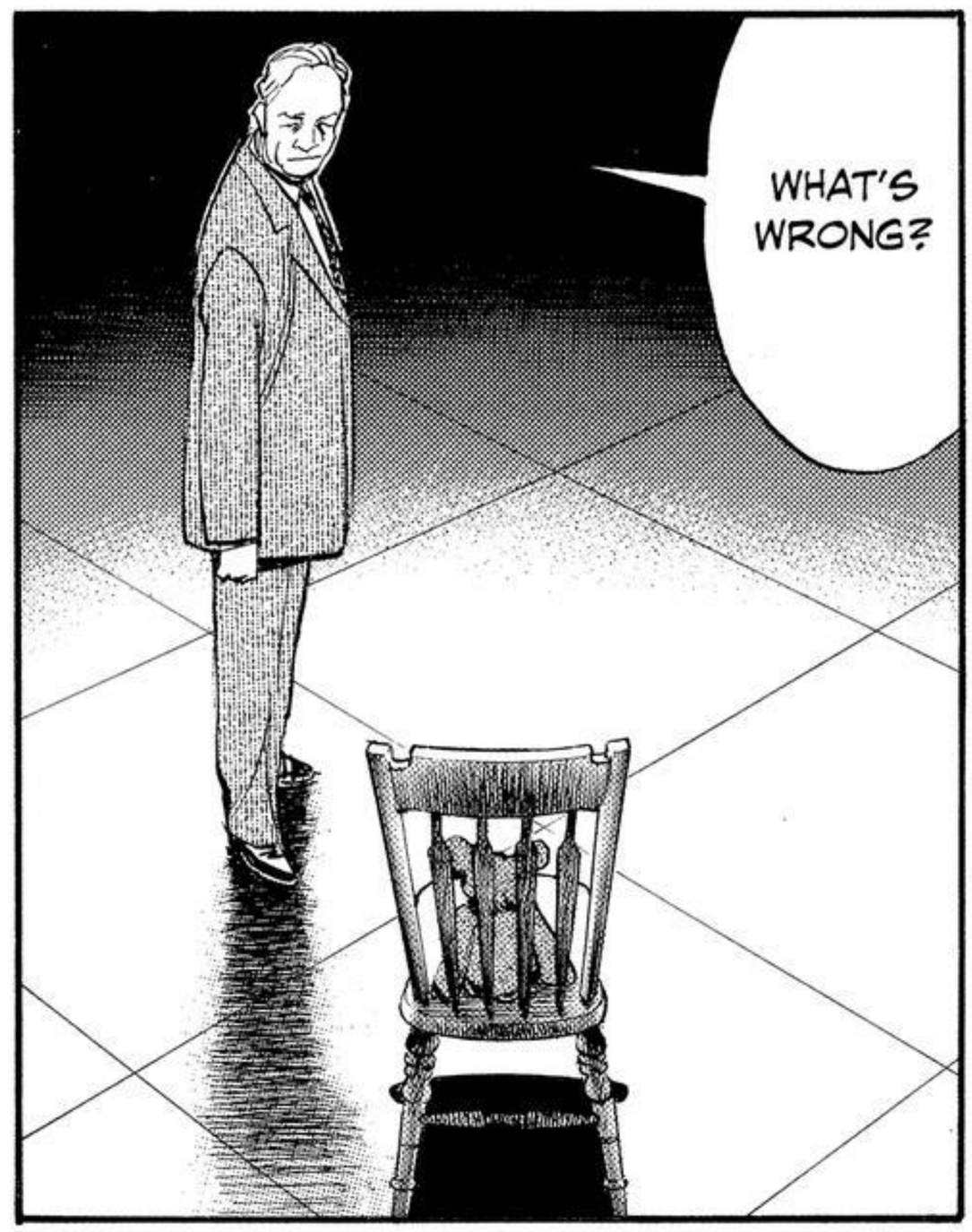


YOU'D BETTER...

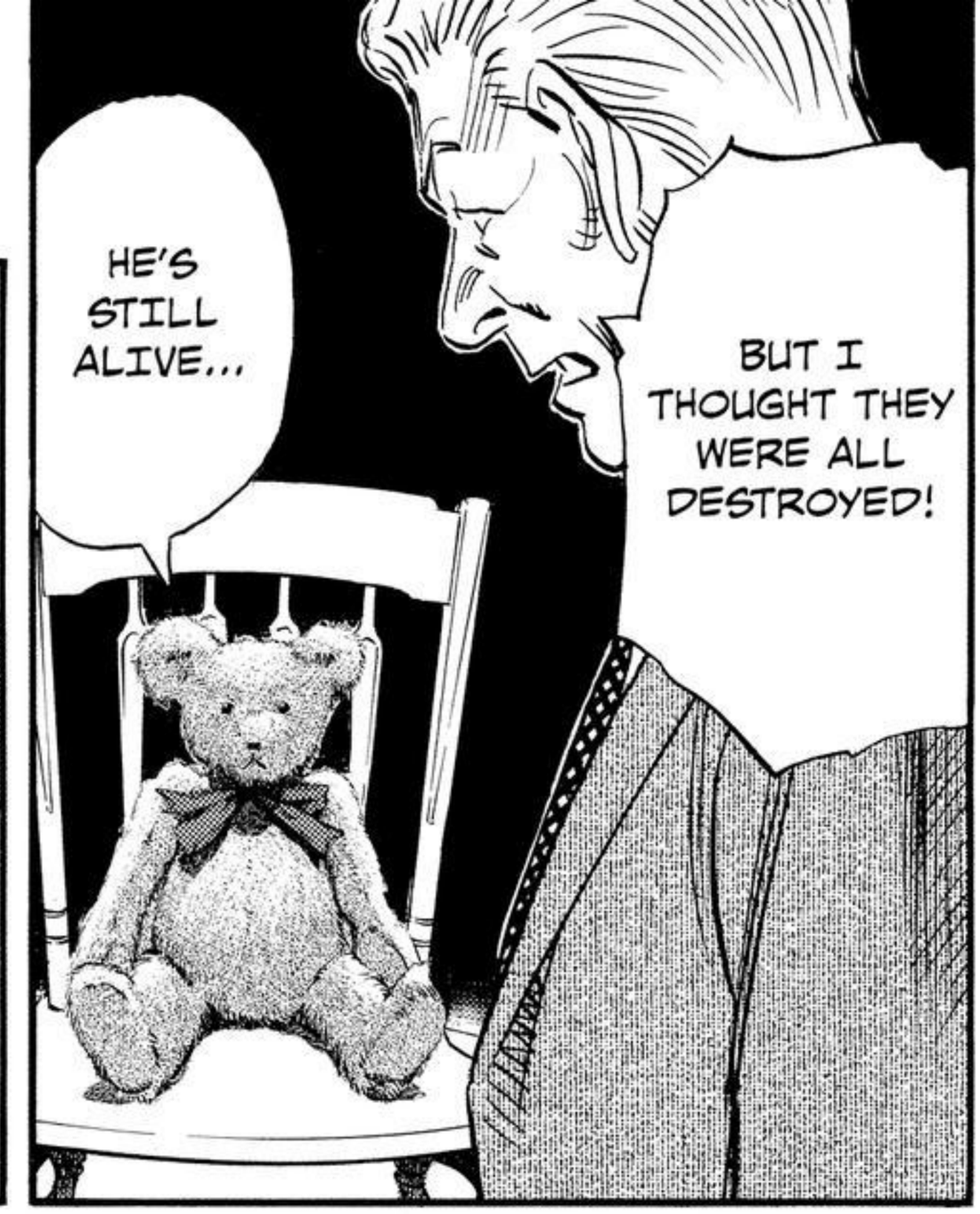
YOU'D BETTER NOT MAKE ME ANGRY...

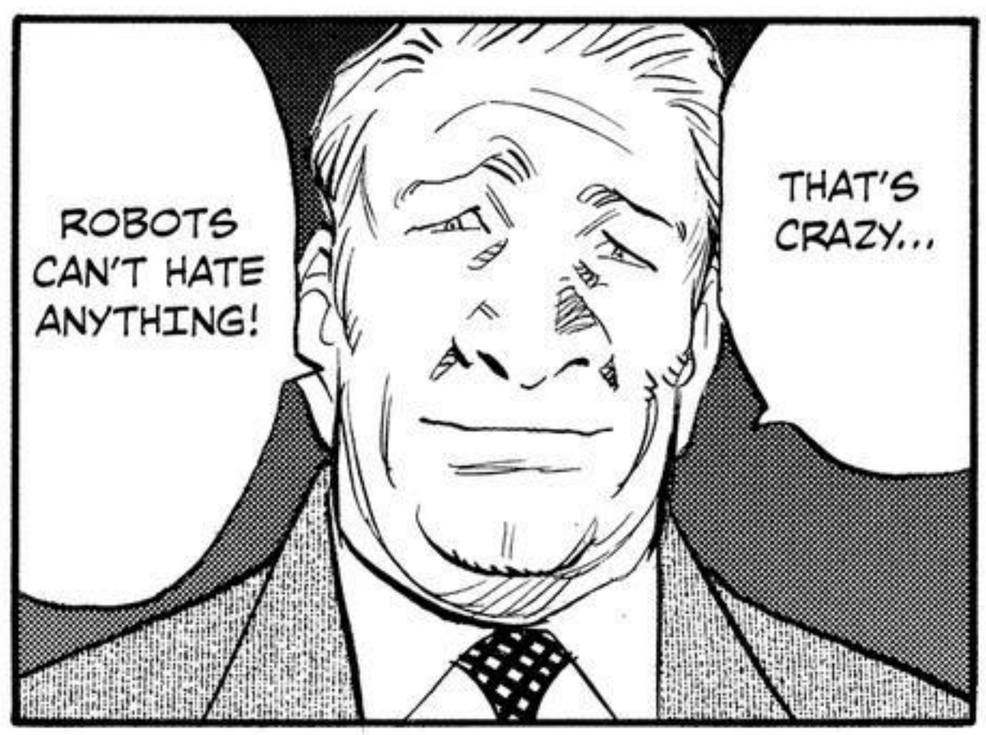
UH-
OH...

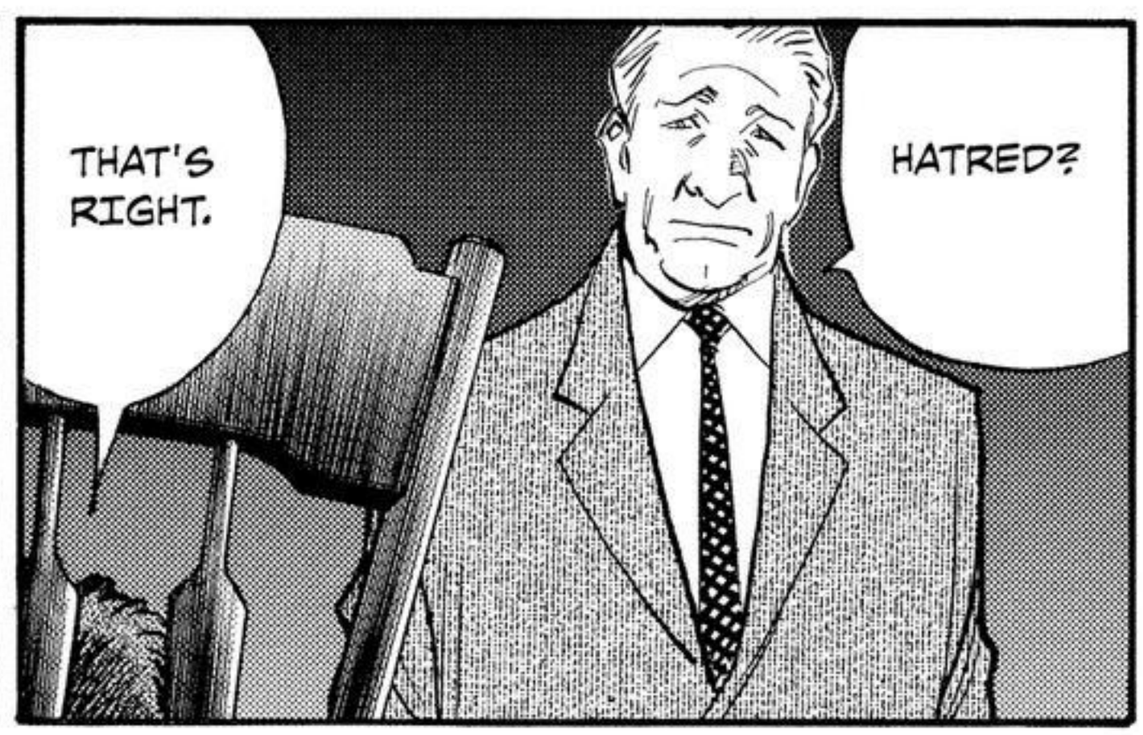


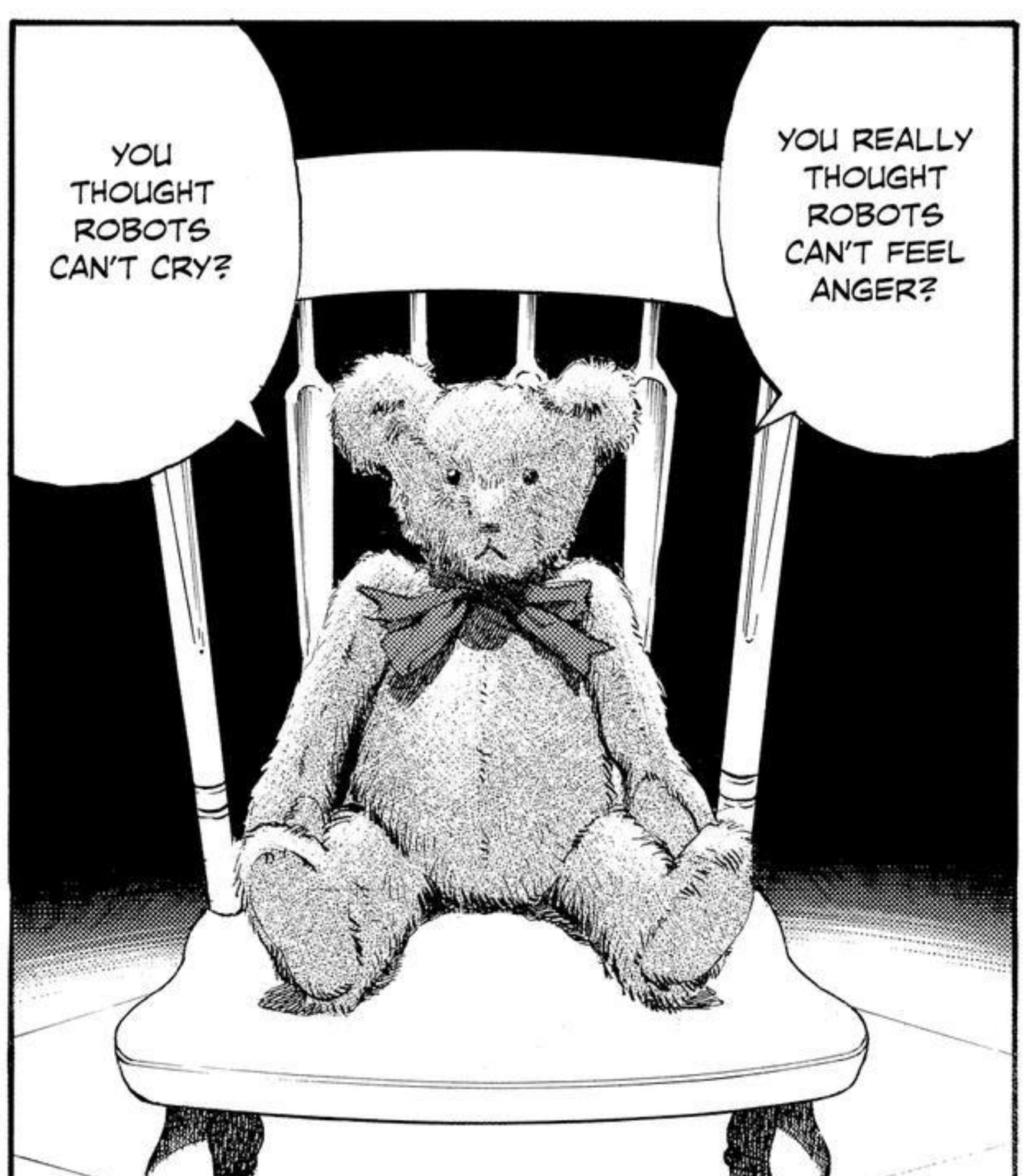


AND WHAT'S MORE...
HE'S BURNING WITH A SUBLIME HATRED...


HE'S STILL ALIVE...
BUT I THOUGHT THEY WERE ALL DESTROYED!

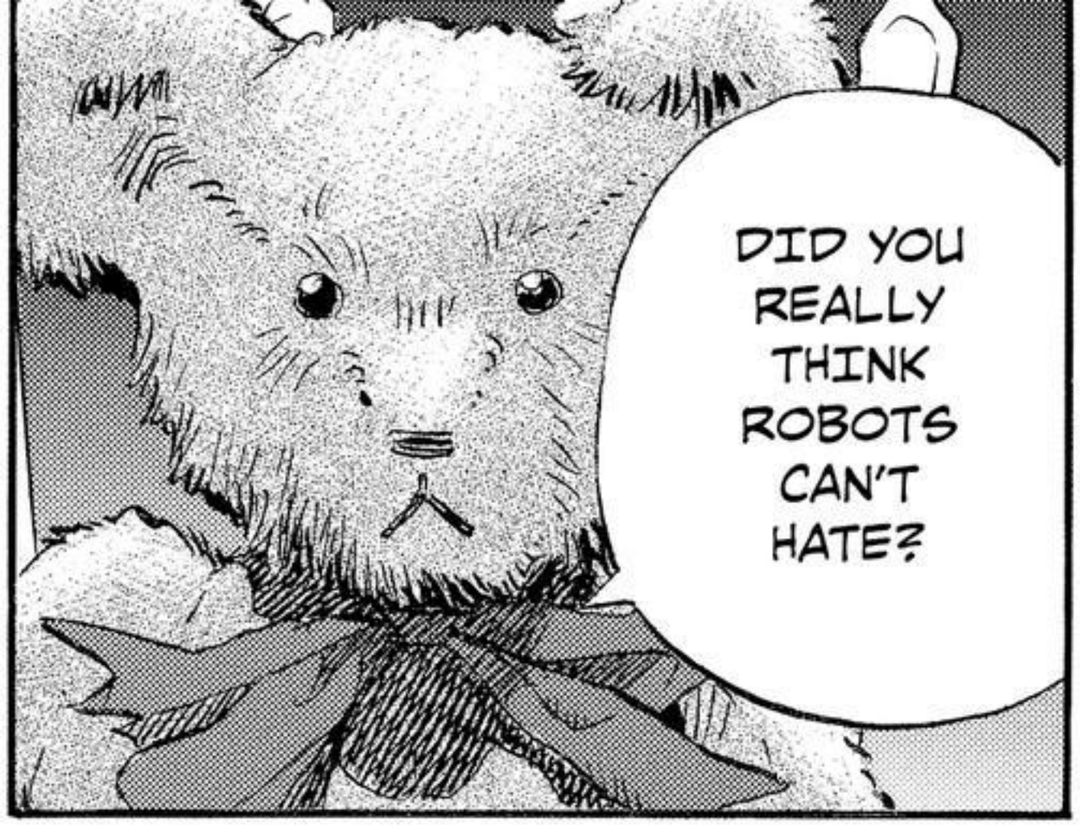

ROBOTS CAN'T HATE ANYTHING!
THAT'S CRAZY...


THAT'S RIGHT.
HATRED?

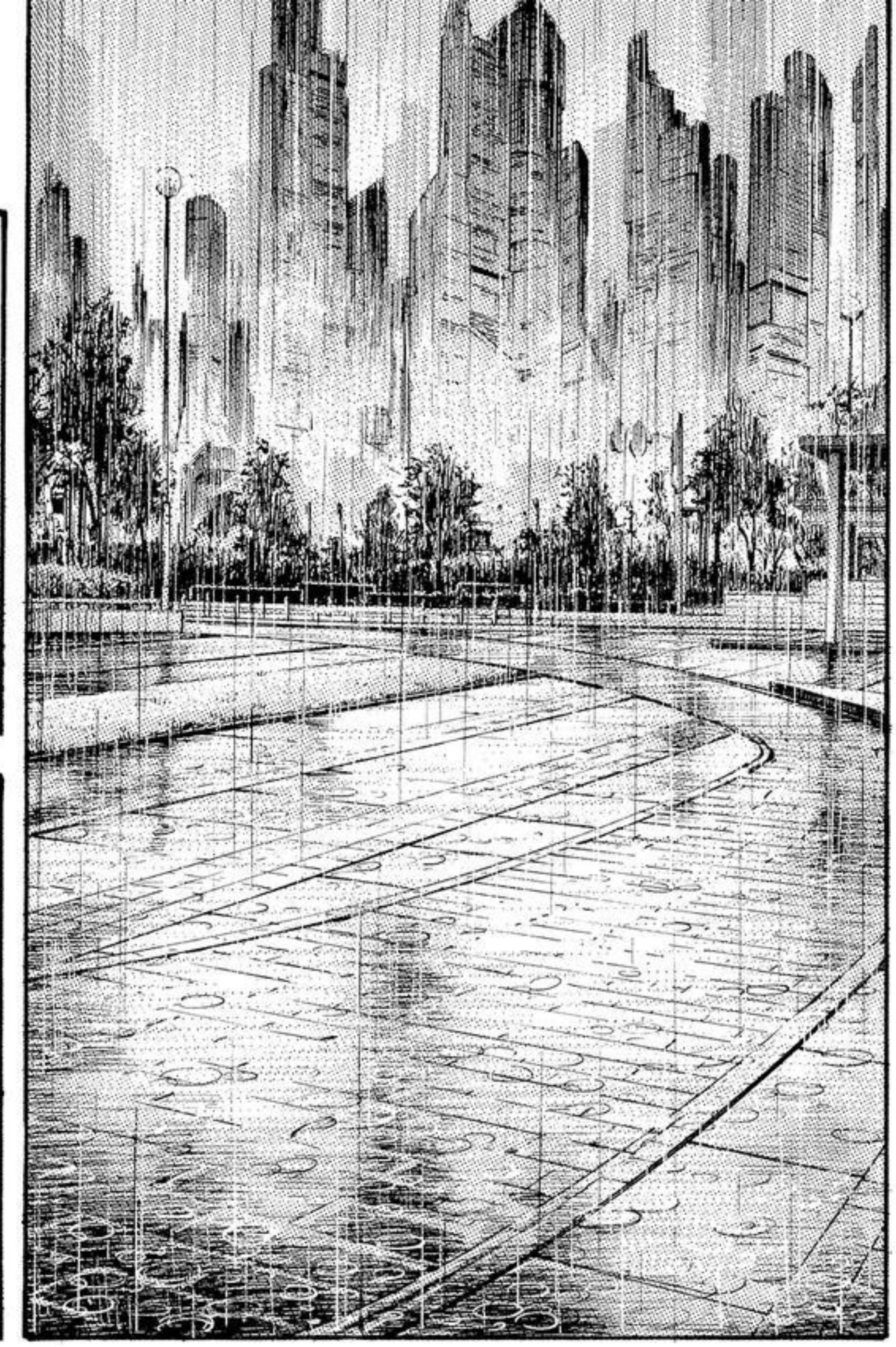

YOU THOUGHT ROBOTS CAN'T CRY?
YOU REALLY THOUGHT ROBOTS CAN'T FEEL ANGER?

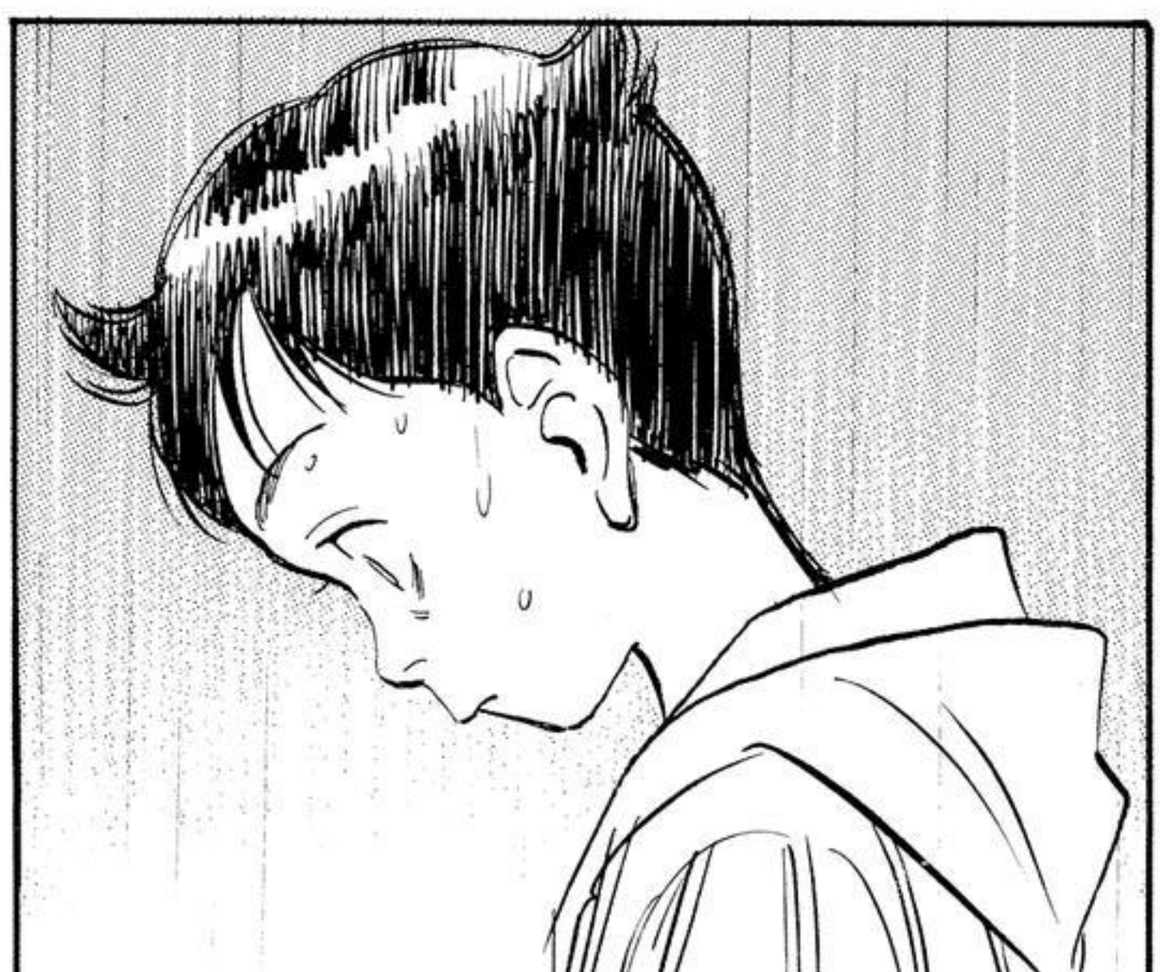
YOU DIDN'T KNOW?

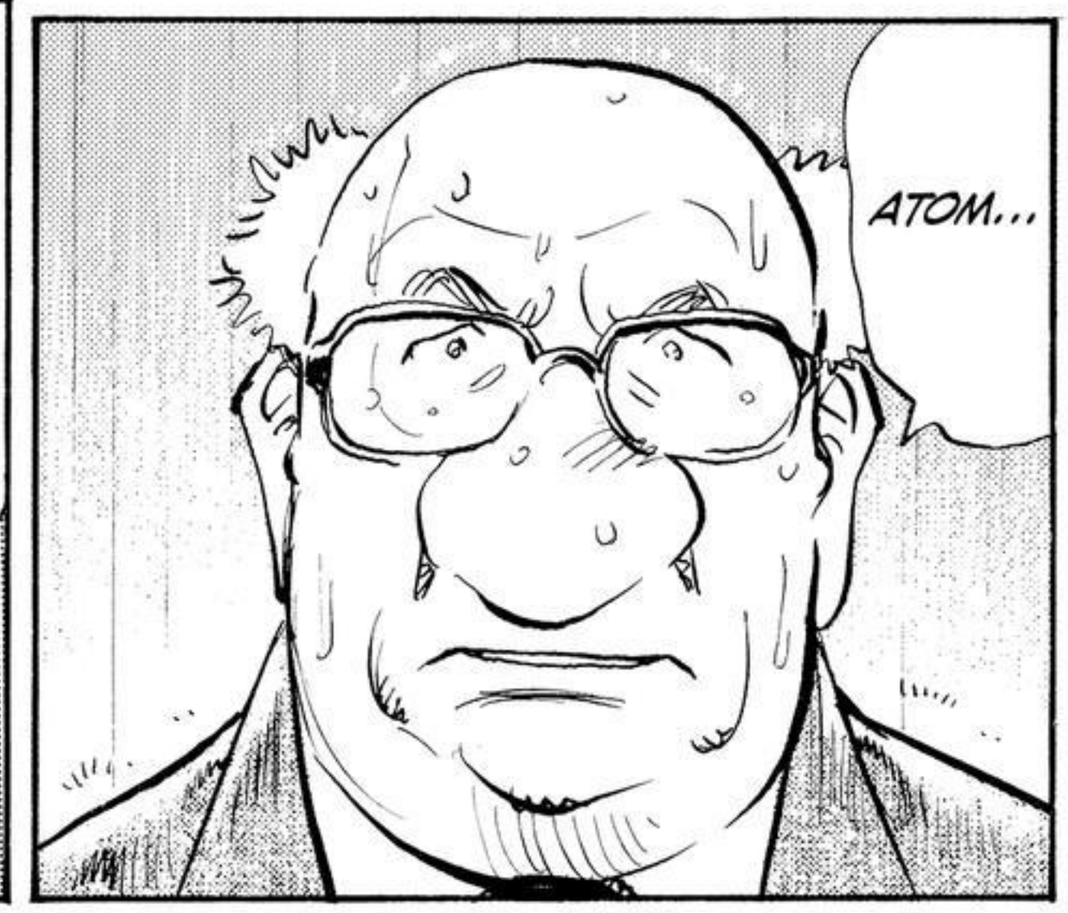
...

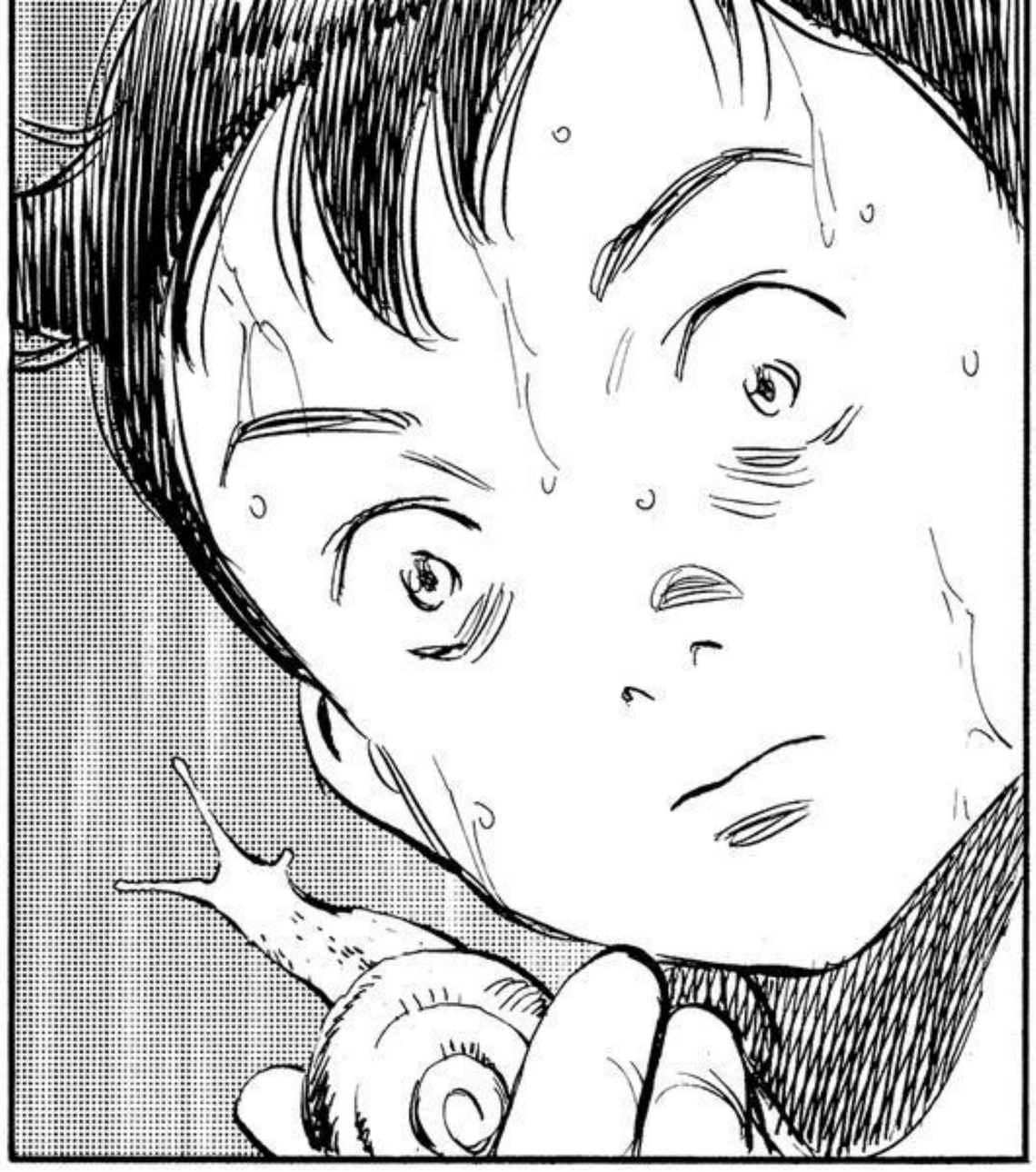

DID YOU REALLY THINK ROBOTS CAN'T HATE?

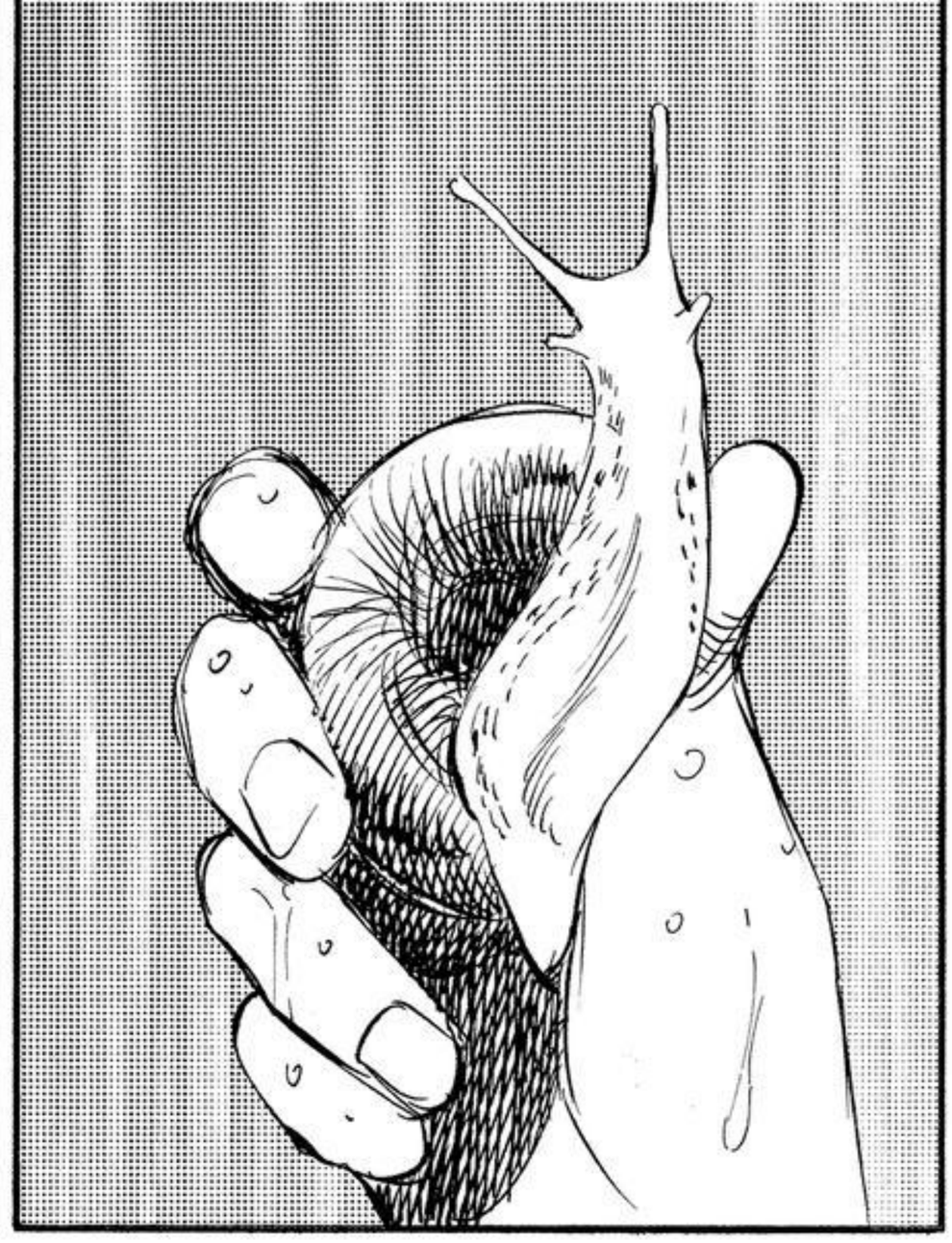
HUFF
HUFF

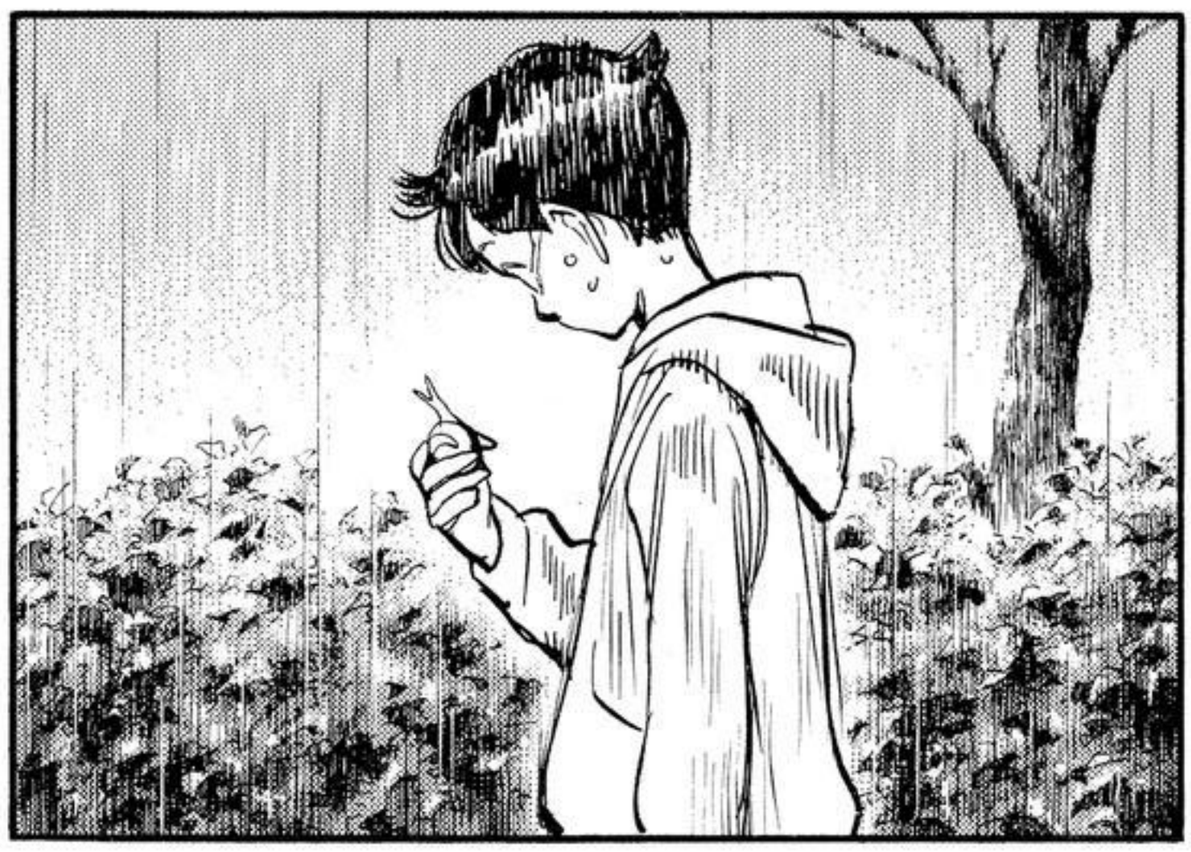


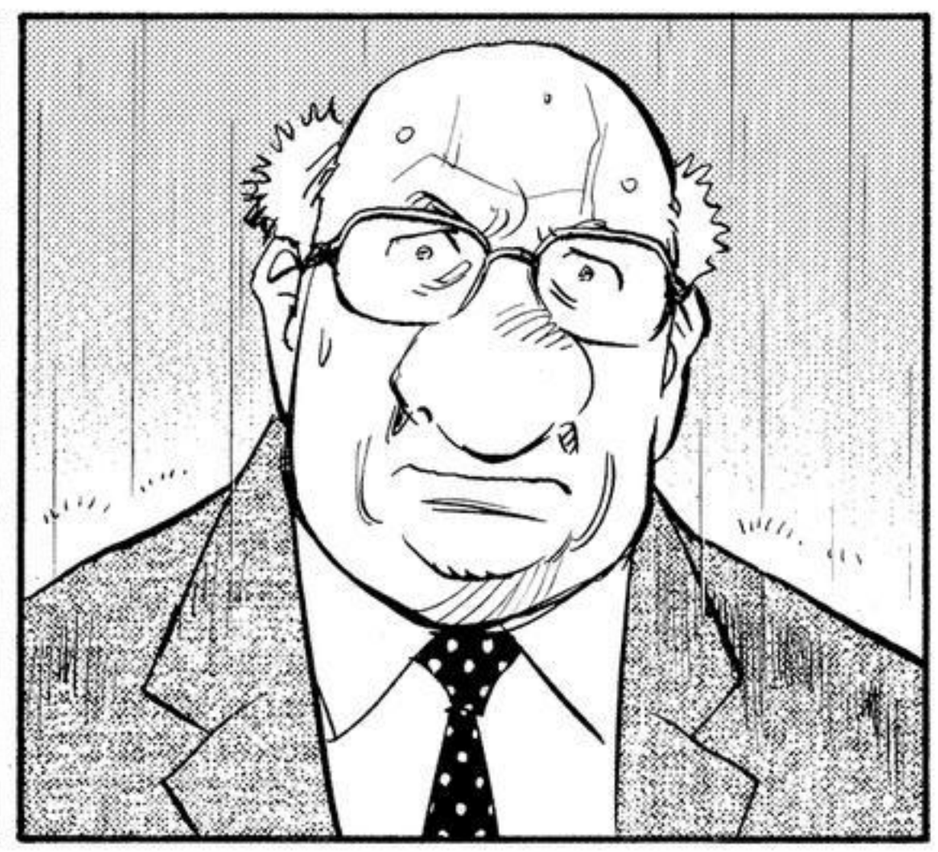


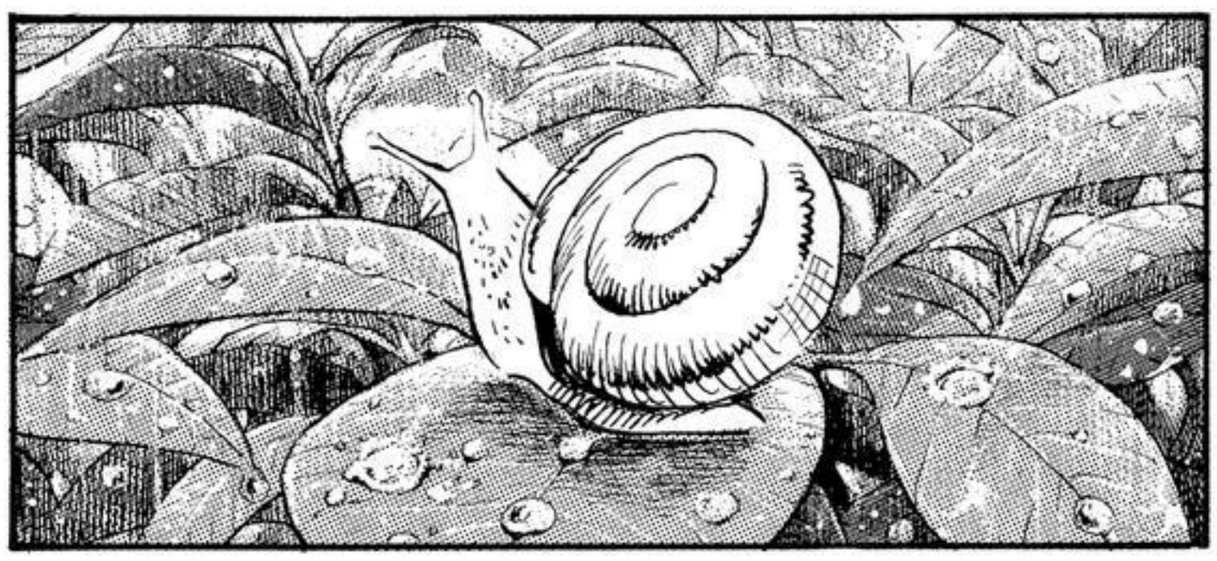

ATOM...

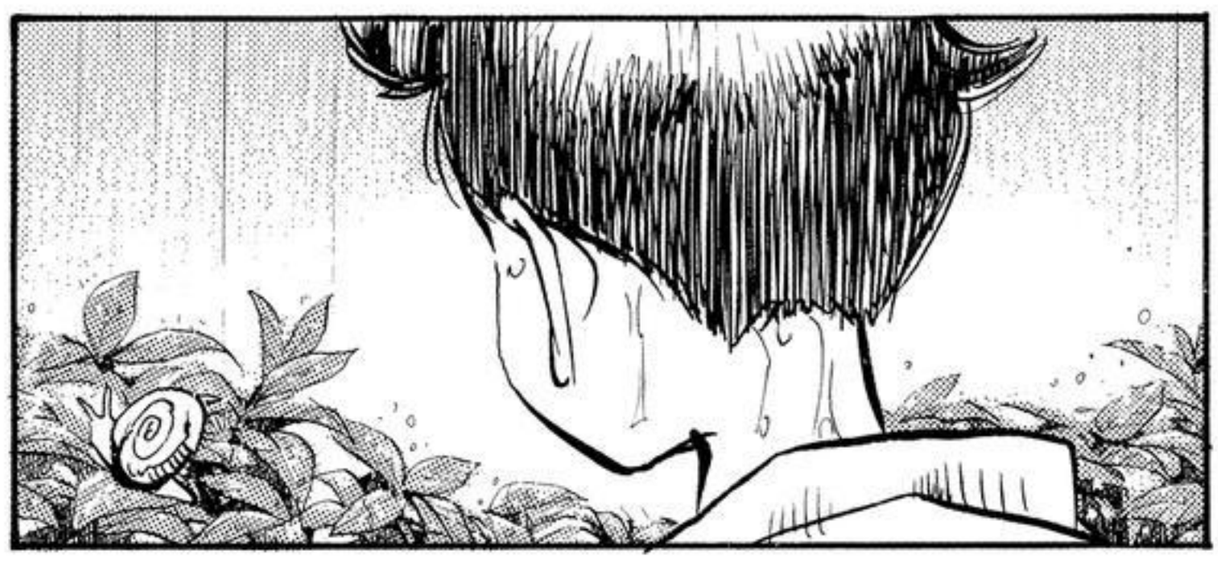


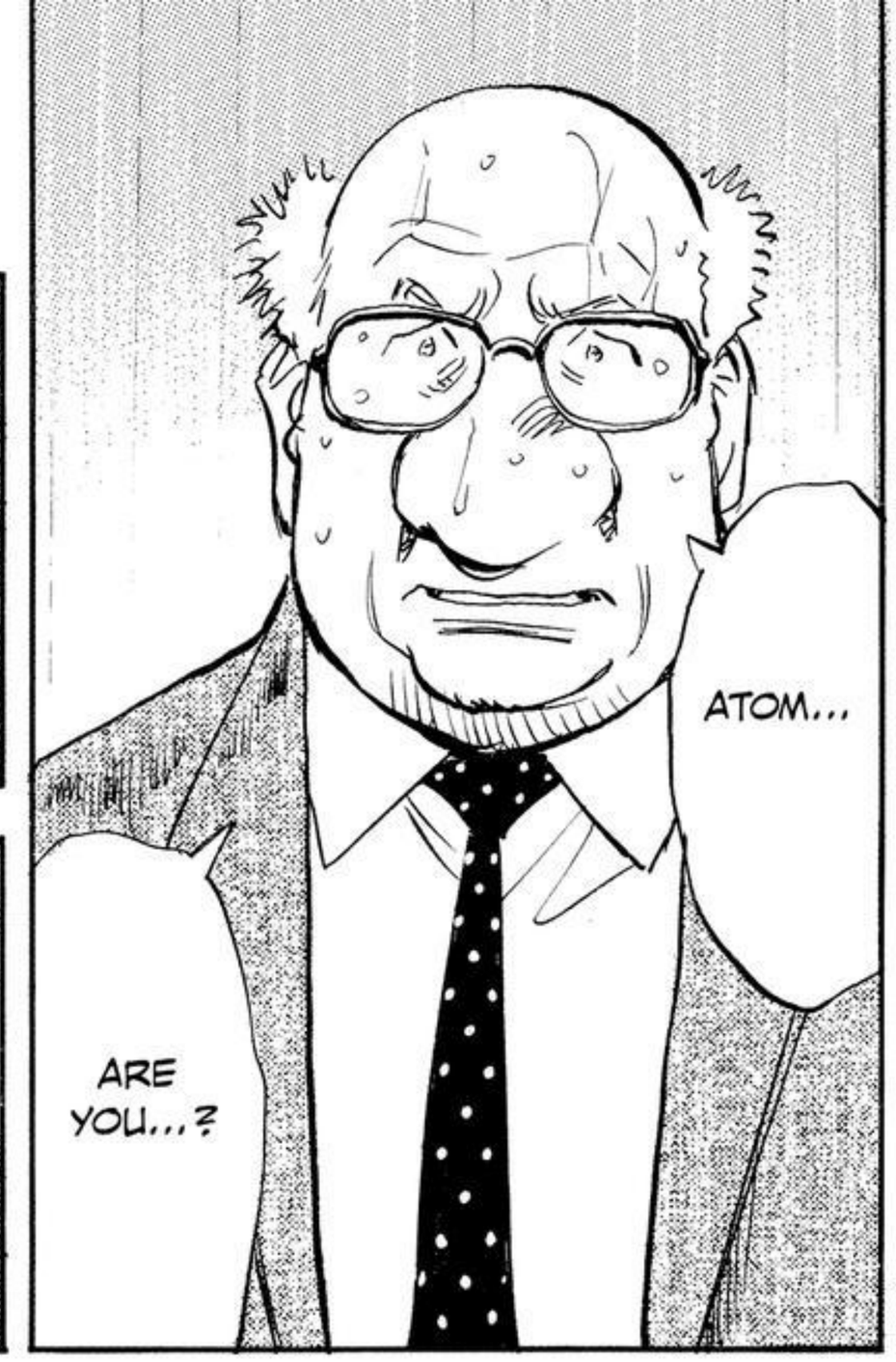


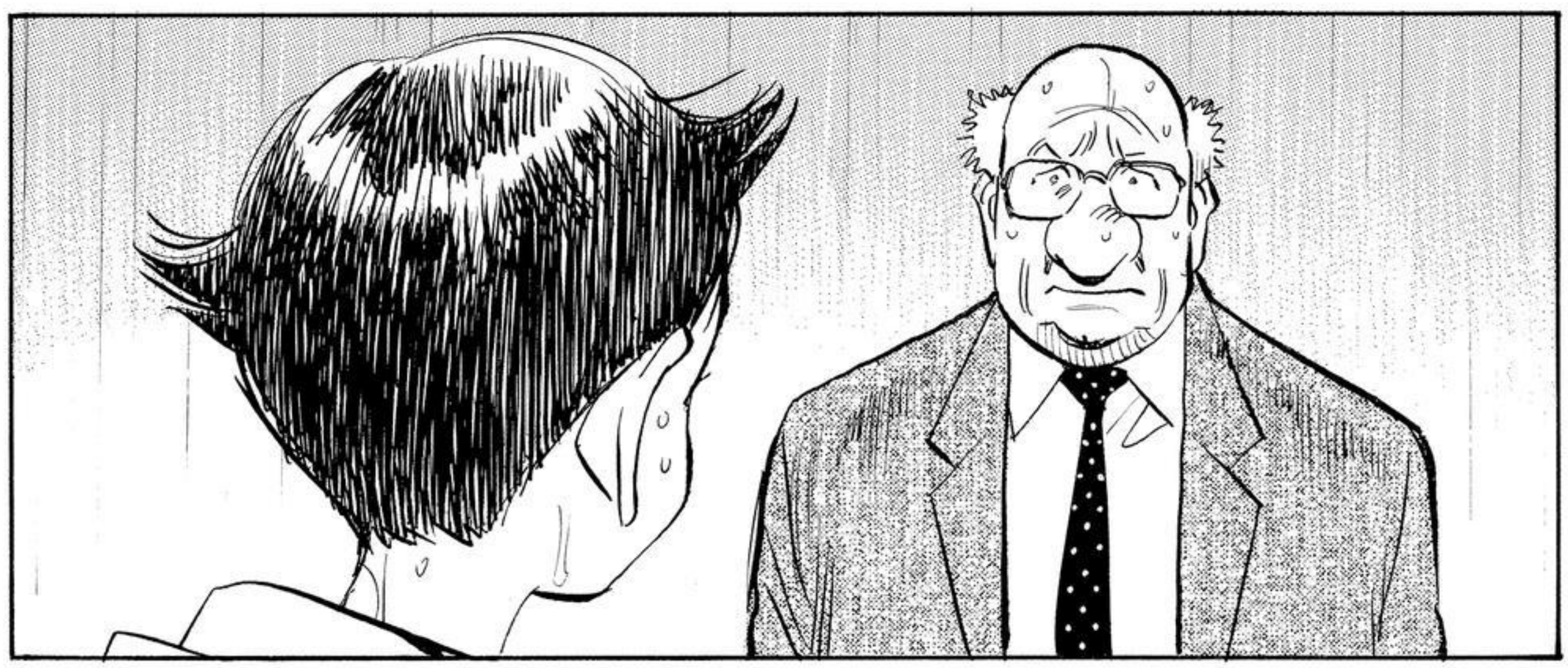


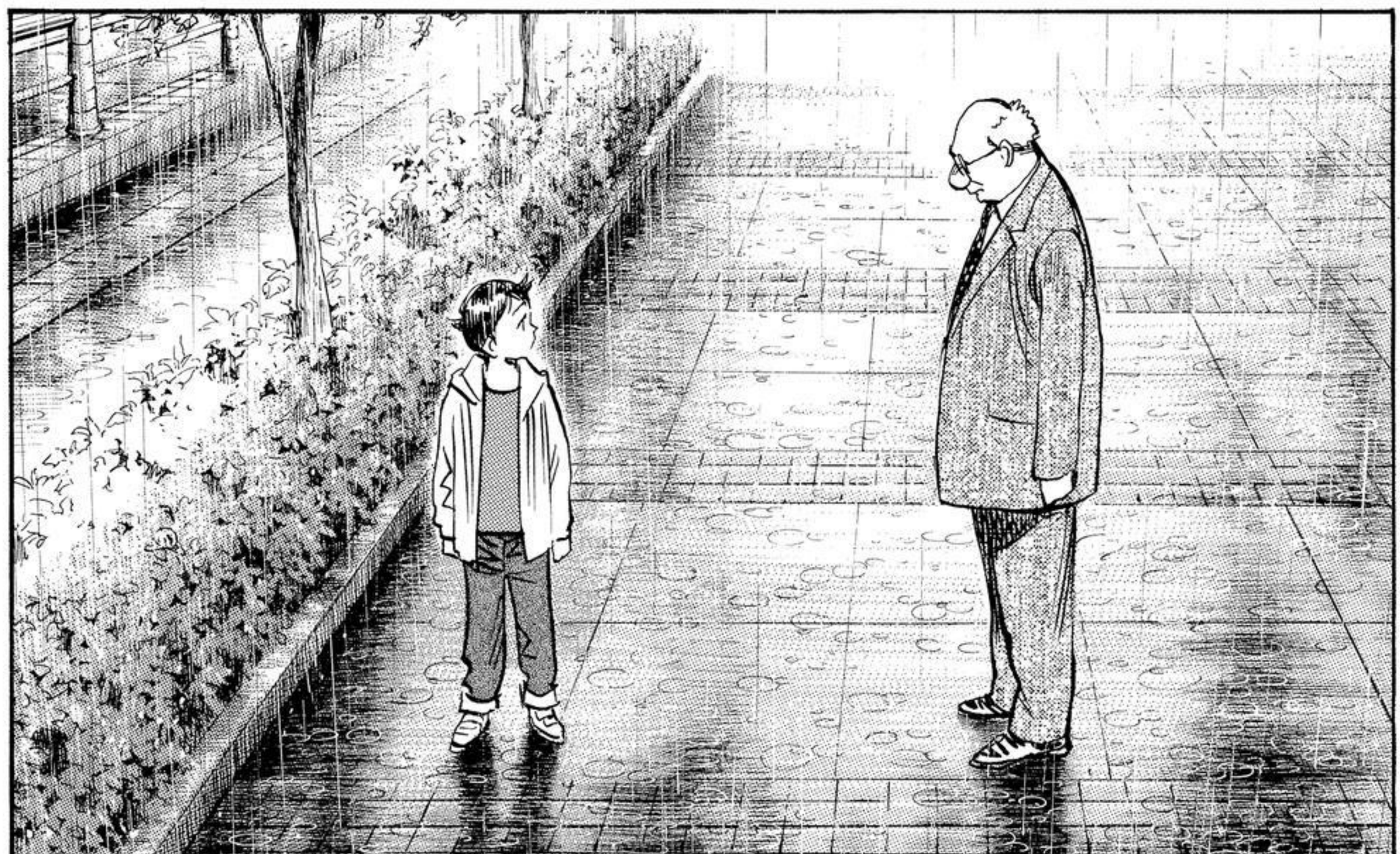






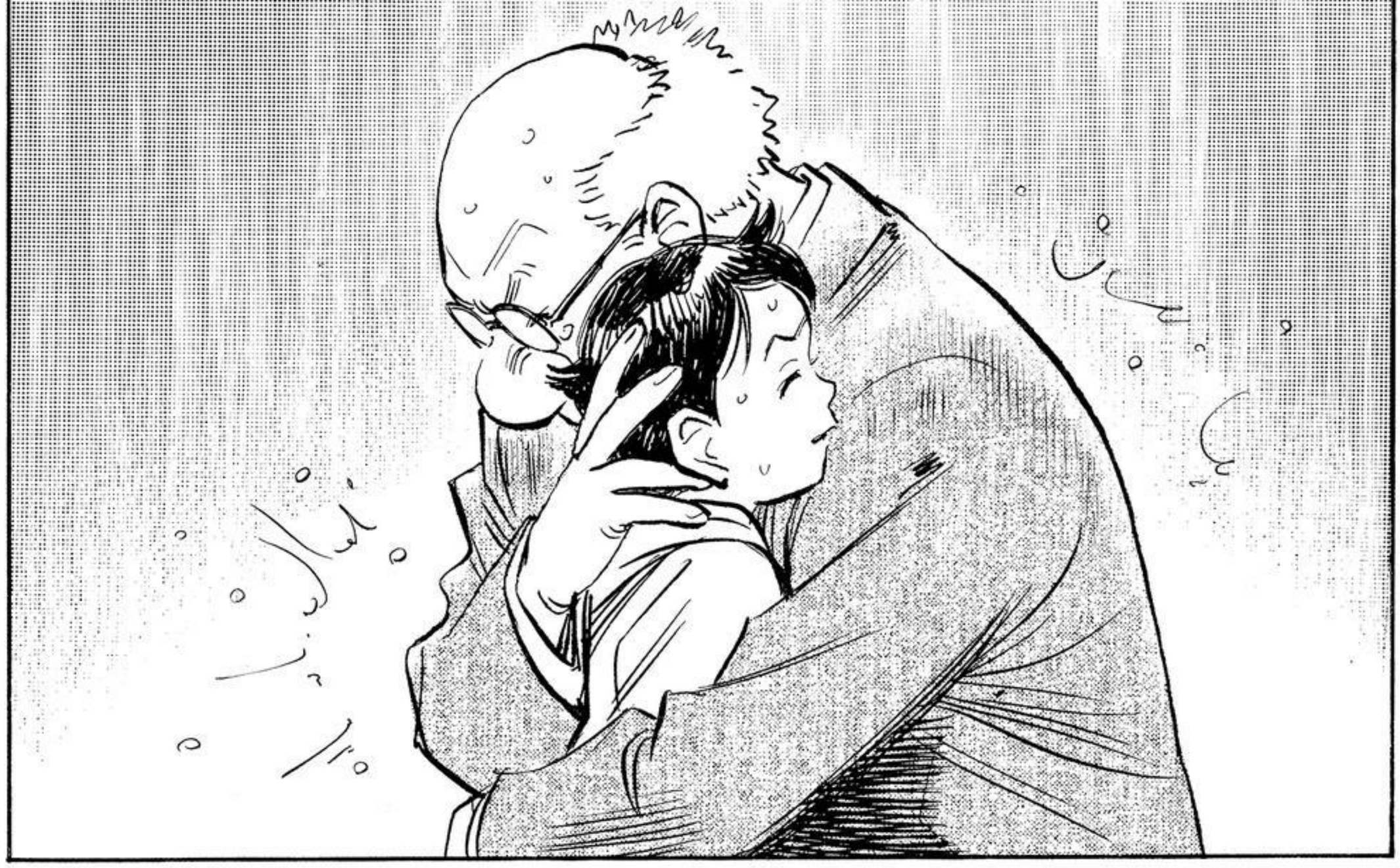

ATOM...
ARE YOU...?





DON'T WORRY, PROFESSOR ...

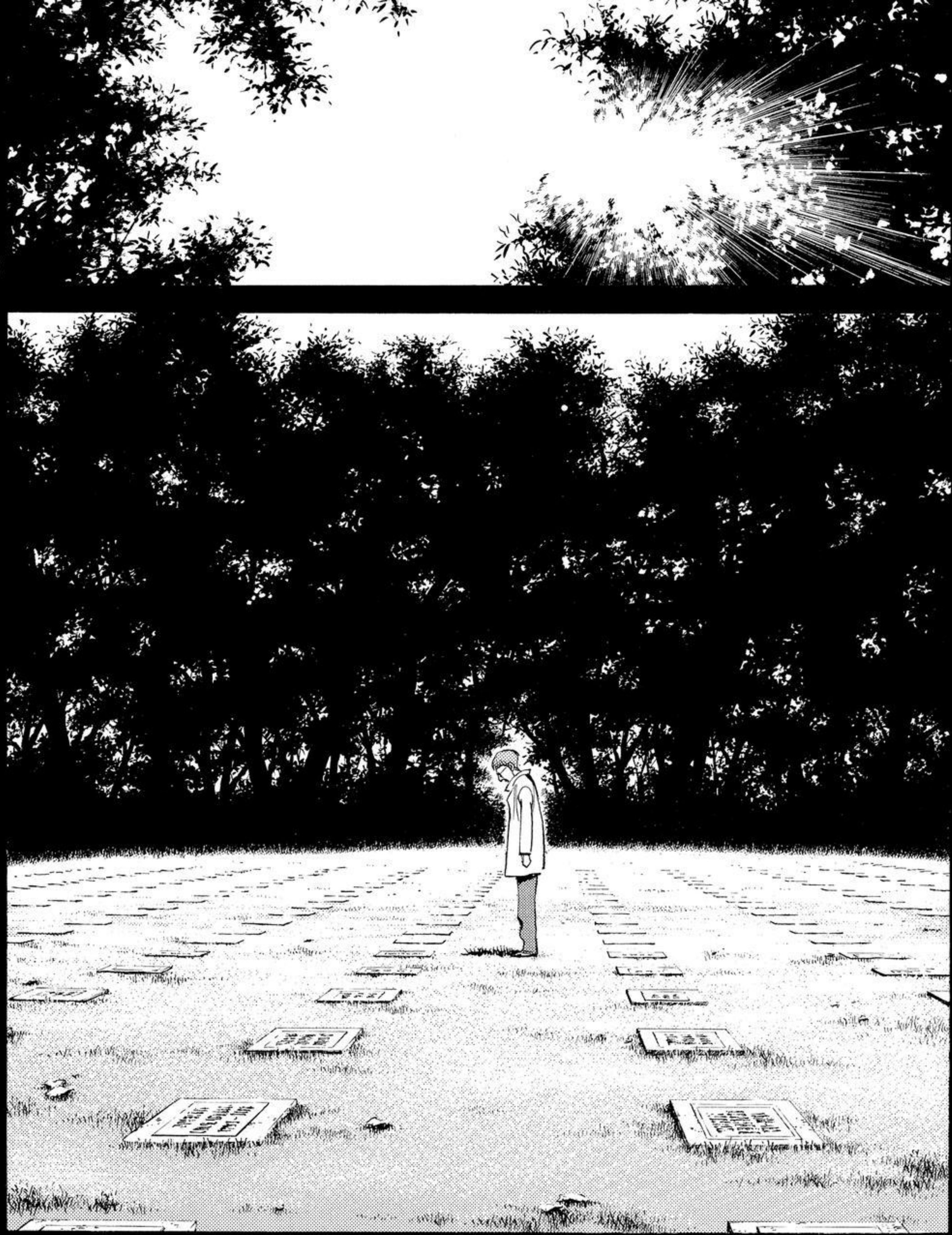
I'M ALL RIGHT NOW ...

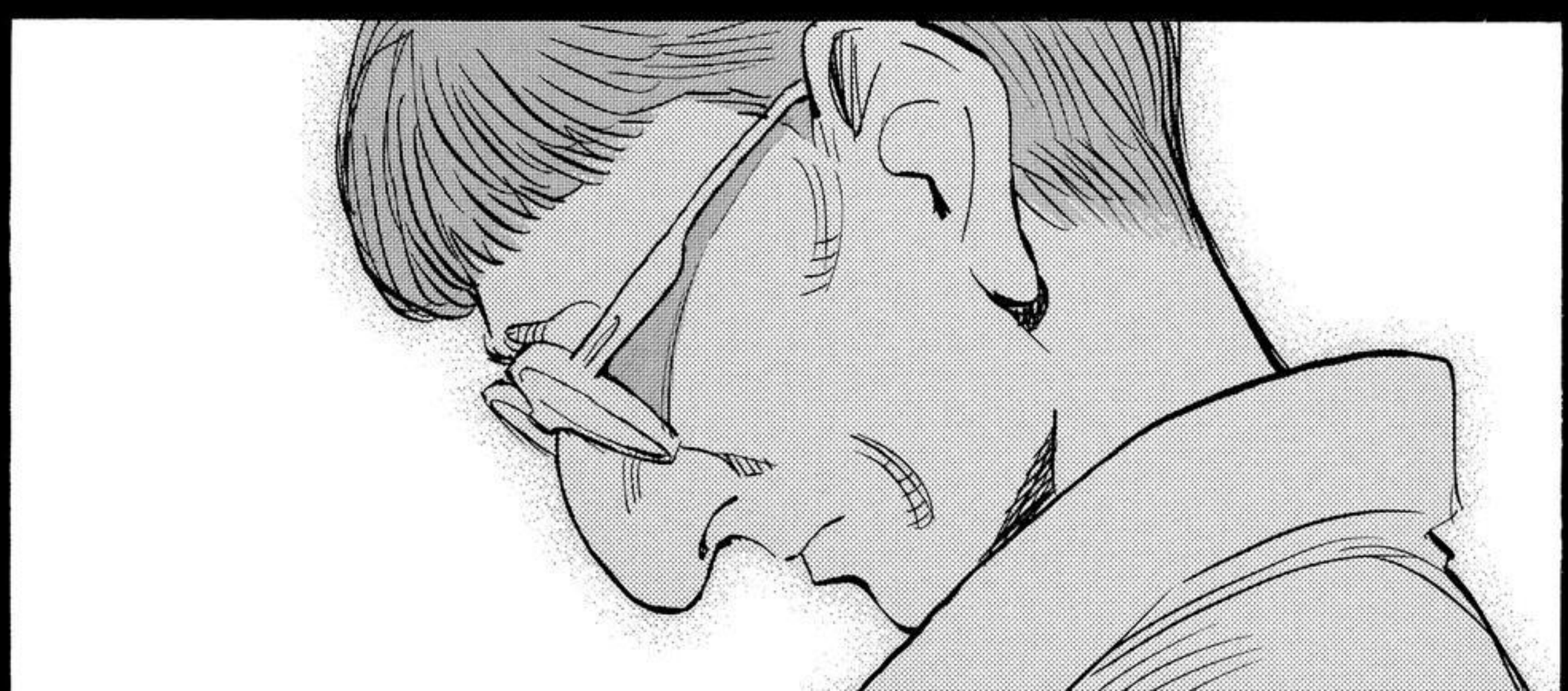


OH, ATOM...

Act 58

OLD FRIEND

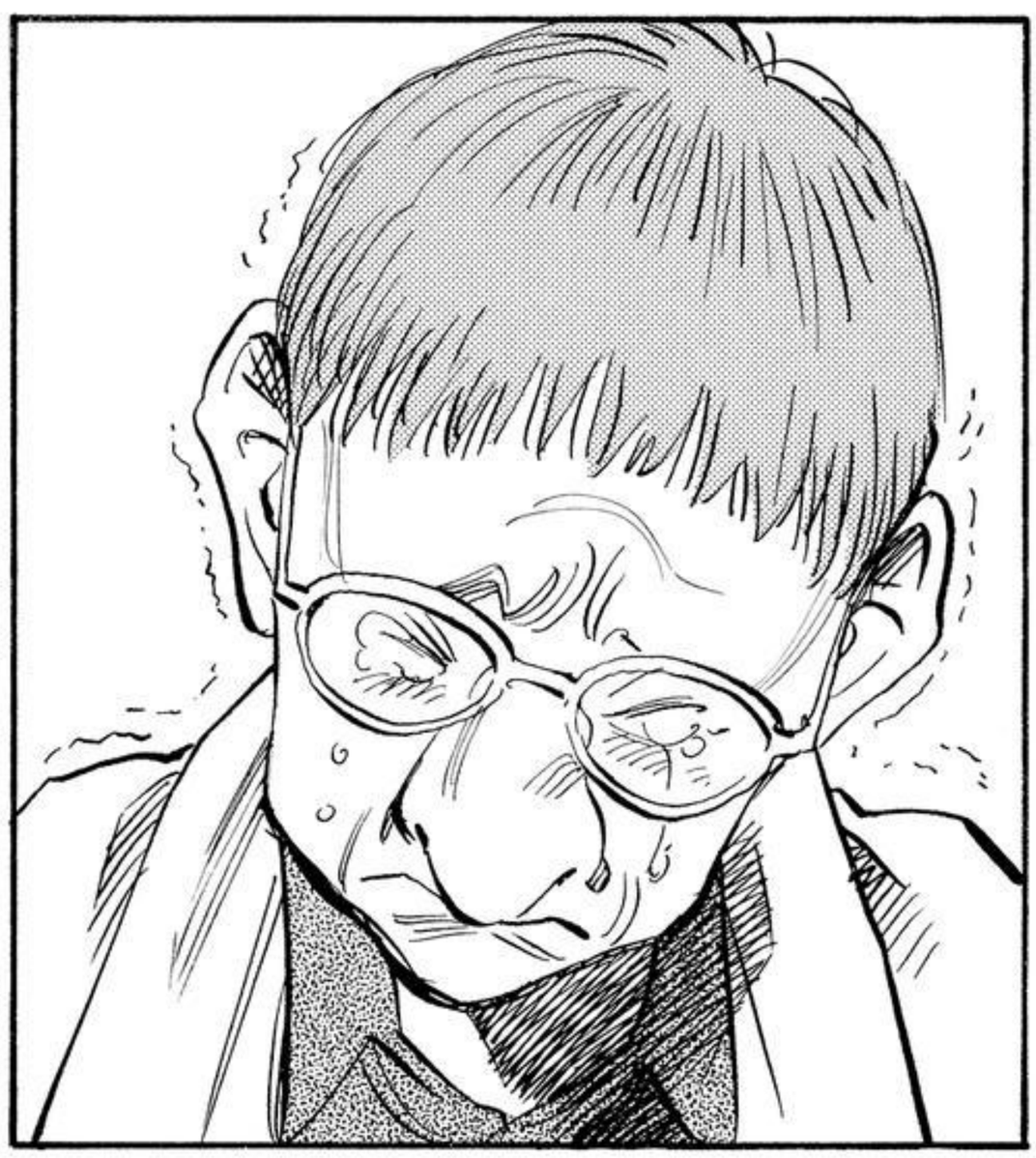




GESICHT...

GESICHT

Der größte Roboter Europas
- Er war Polizist -
stark im Kampf für den Frieden der Menschheit



THAT'S BECAUSE HE WAS...

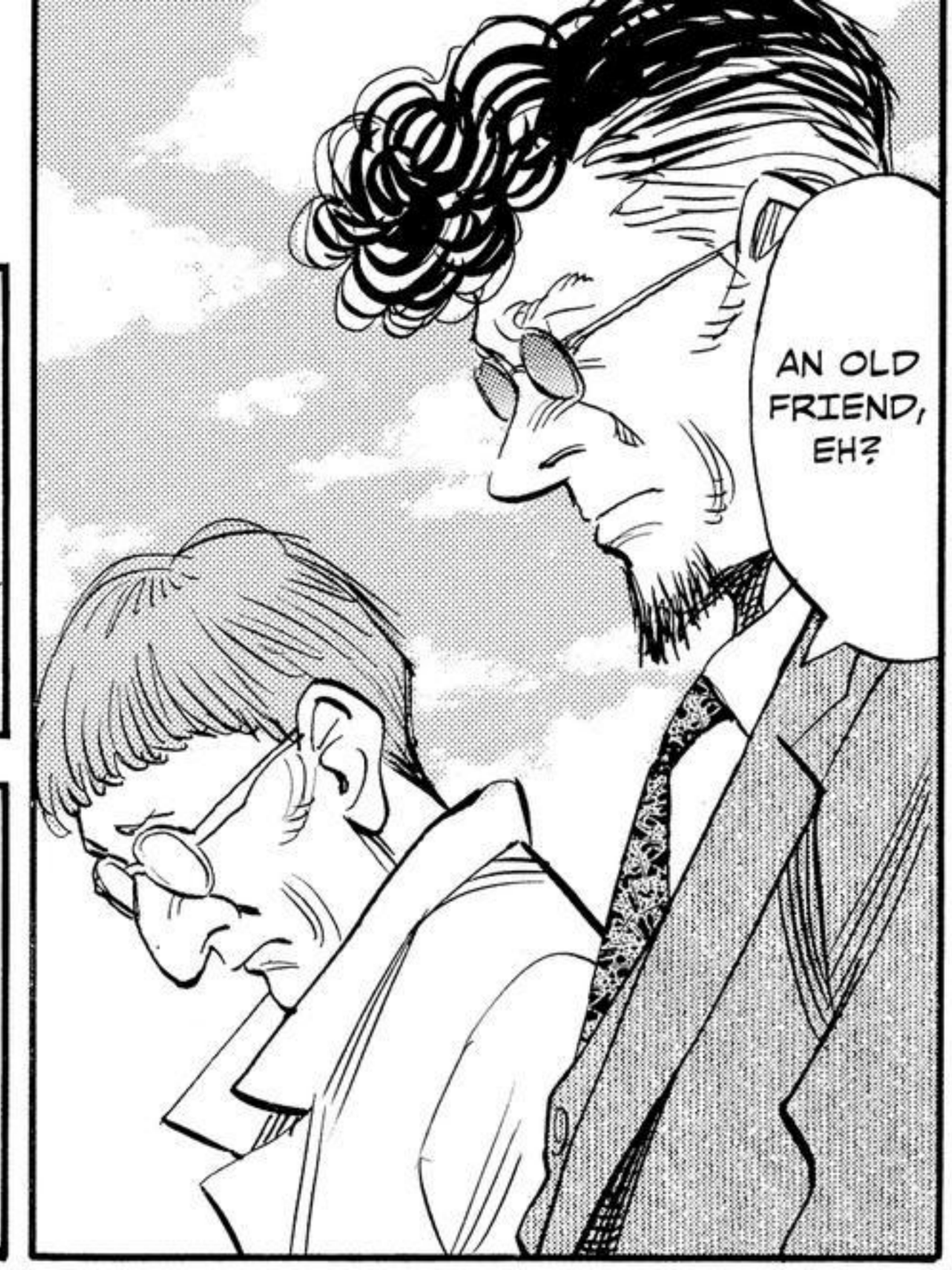
HE WAS MY DEAR OLD FRIEND, IRREPLACEABLE ...

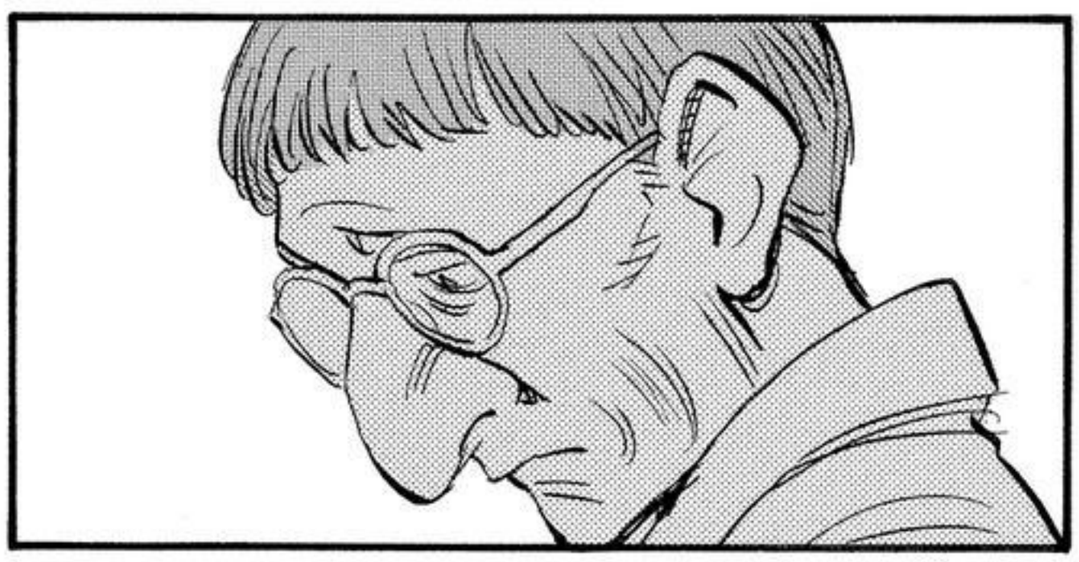
Act 58

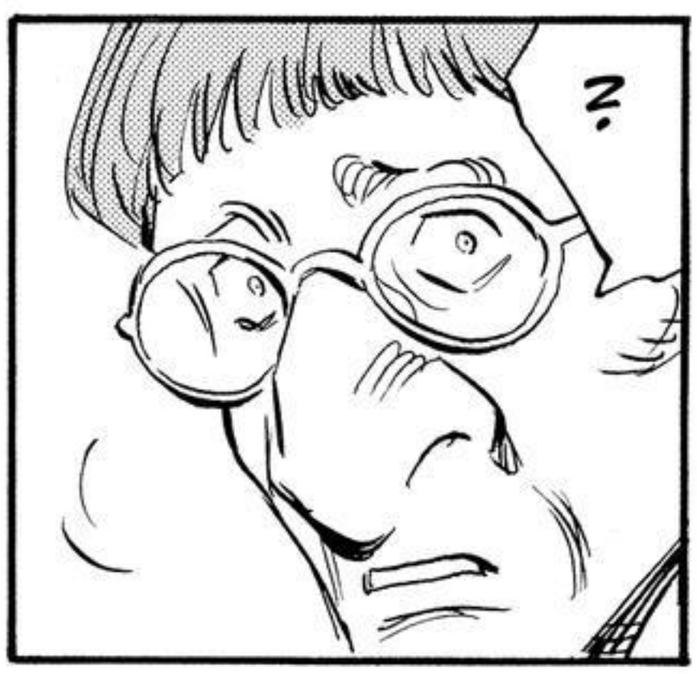
OLD FRIEND

FRANZ ANTON

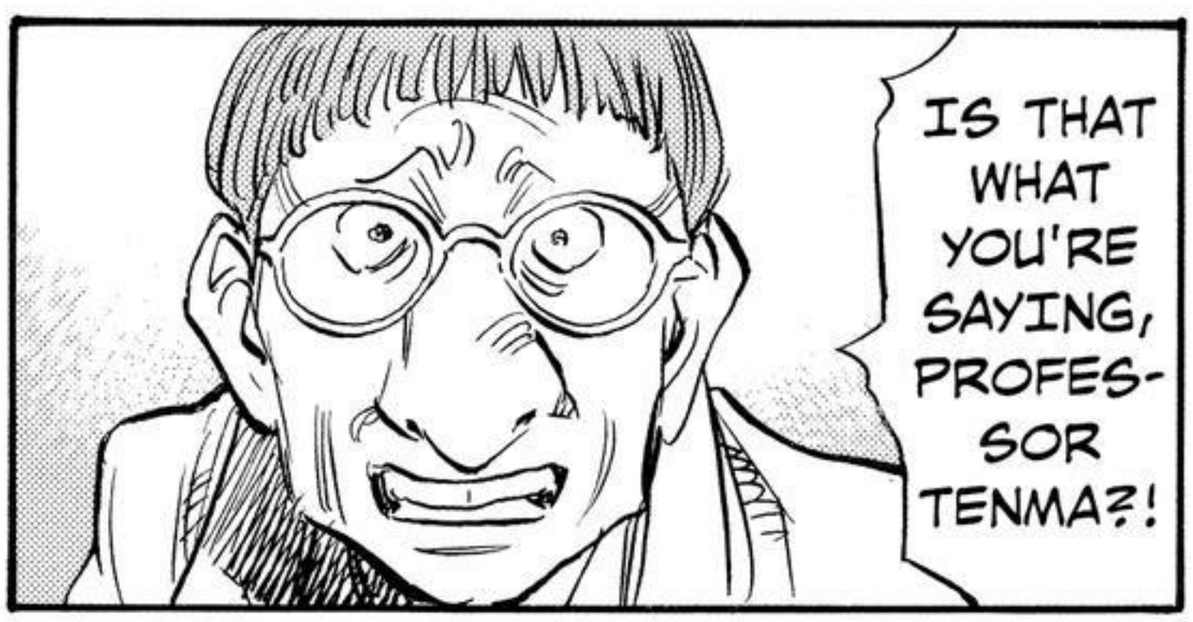
I LOST A SON...

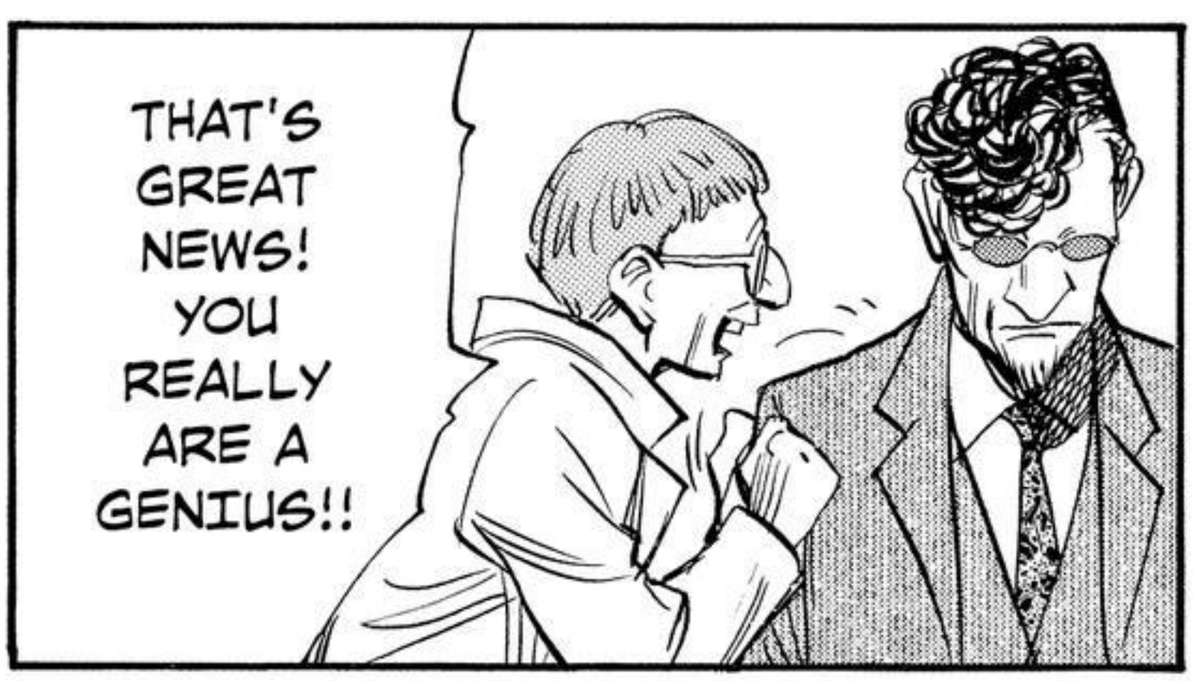

AN OLD FRIEND, EH?




?

OR AT LEAST THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT, UNTIL NOW...
NOT ONCE, BUT TWICE...


IS THAT WHAT YOU'RE SAYING, PROFES-SOR TENMA?!

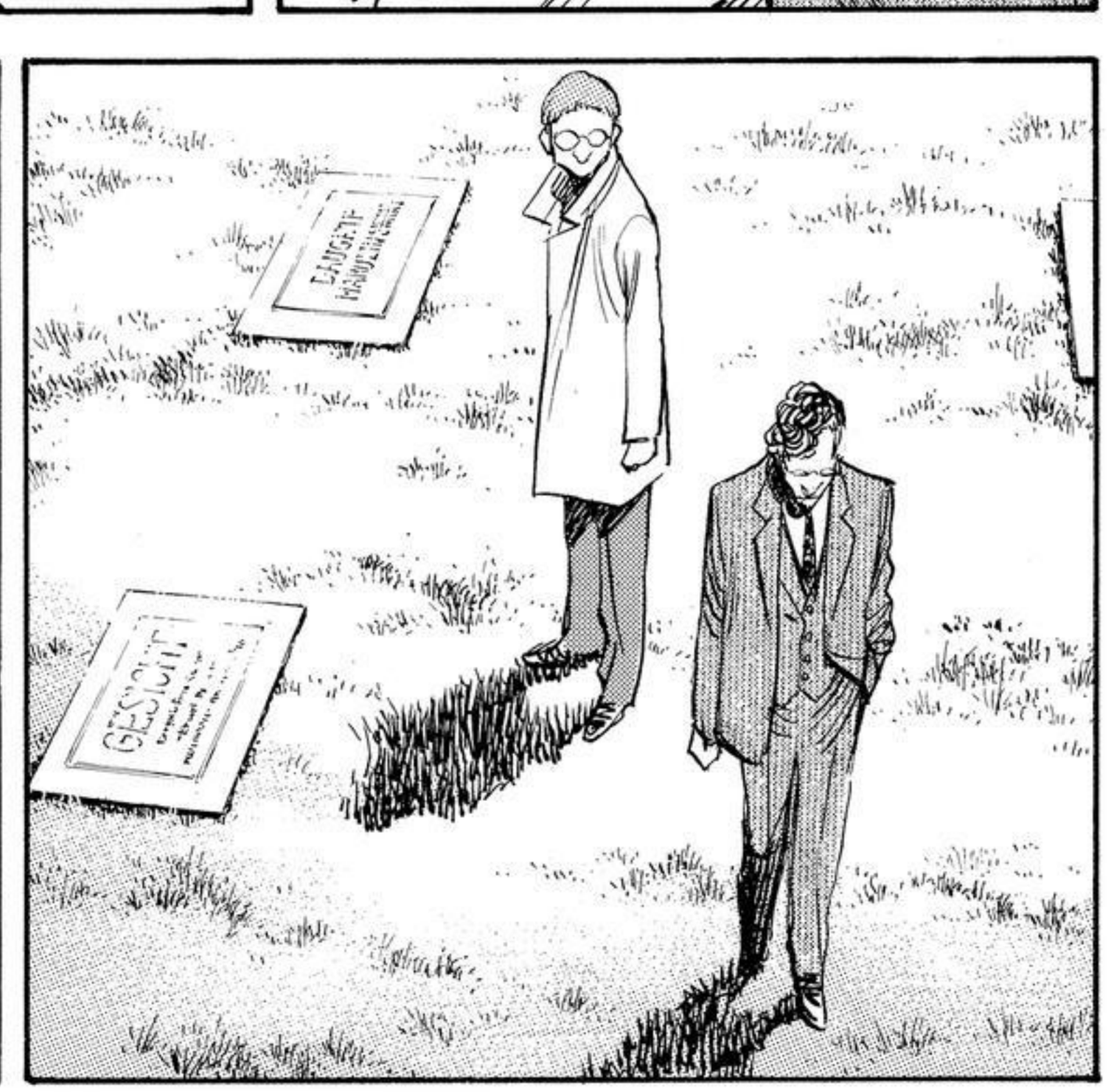

THAT'S GREAT NEWS! YOU REALLY ARE A GENIUS!!

WHAT? YOU MEAN ATOM'S COME BACK TO LIFE?

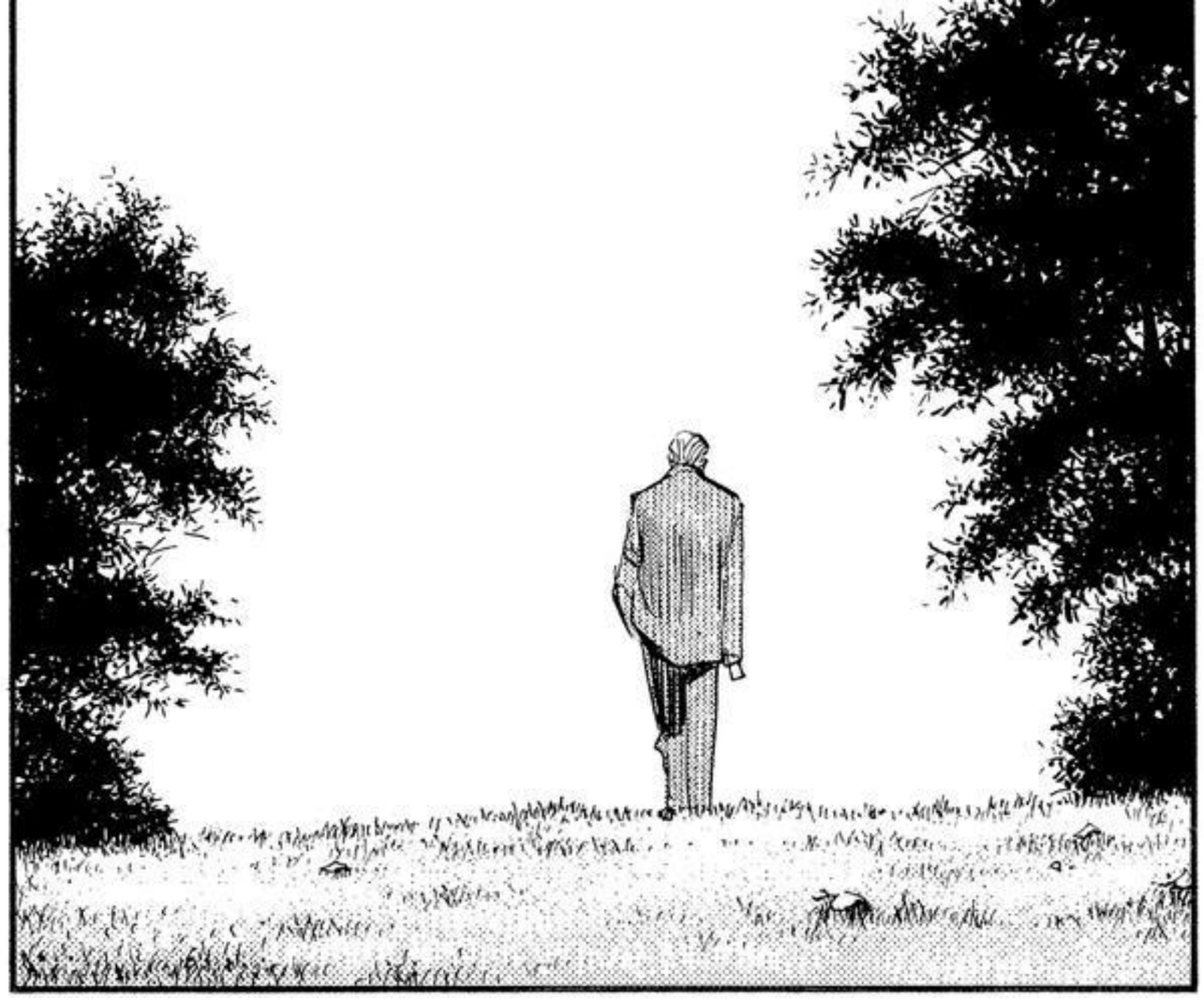
THIS TRAGEDY SHALL SOON END.

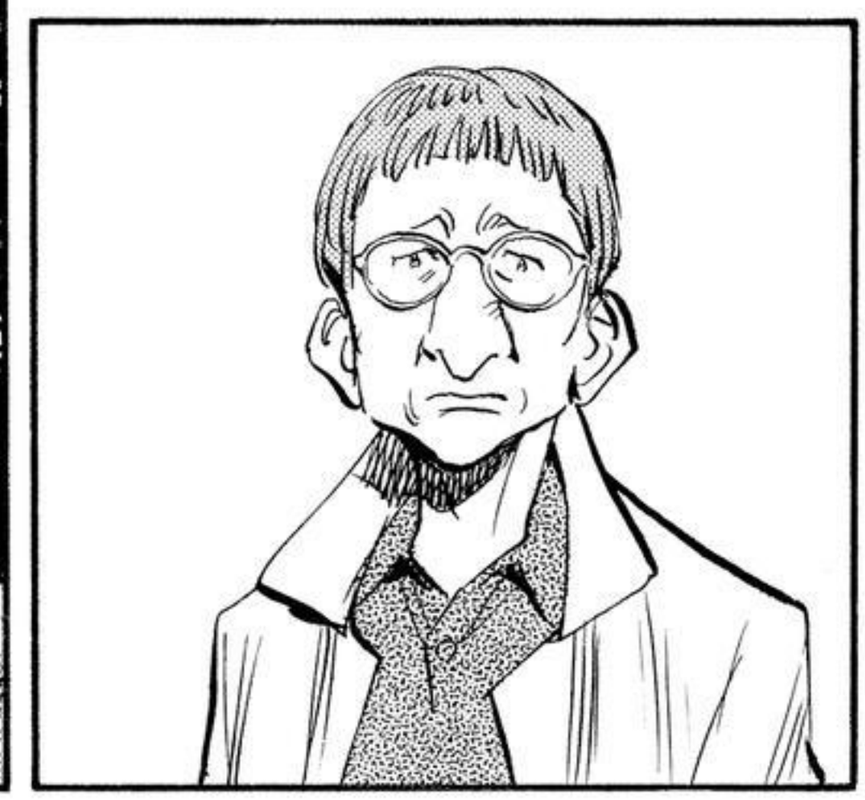
THAT'S SO WONDERFUL...

BUT THE ENDING MAY COME HAND IN HAND WITH AN EVEN GREATER TRAGEDY.



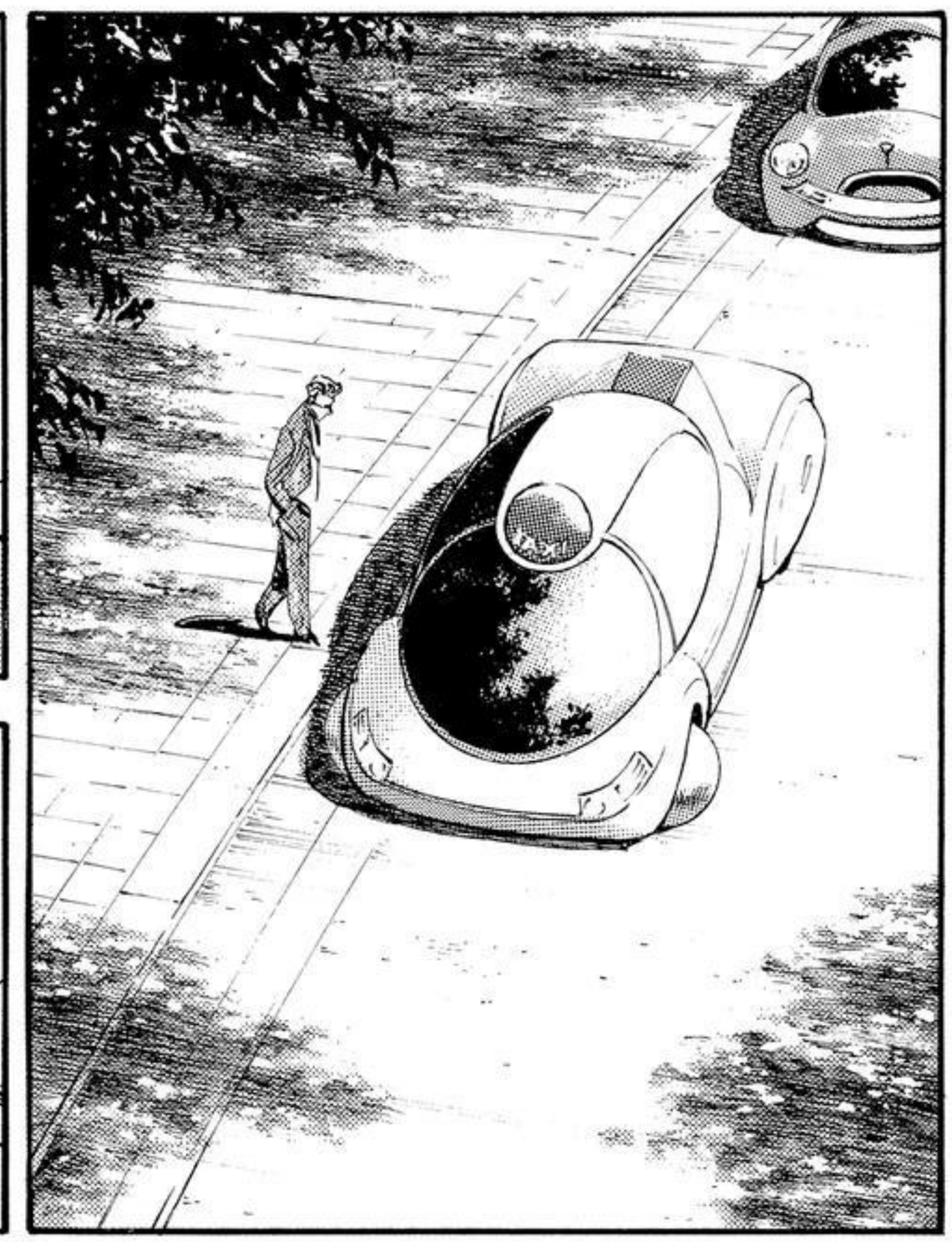
SHOULD NOTHING BE CONSIDERED TABOO?
TELL ME, HOFFMAN. FOR SCIENTISTS SUCH AS OURSELVES, DO YOU THINK ALL FIELDS OF RESEARCH SHOULD BE COMPLETELY OPEN TO US?



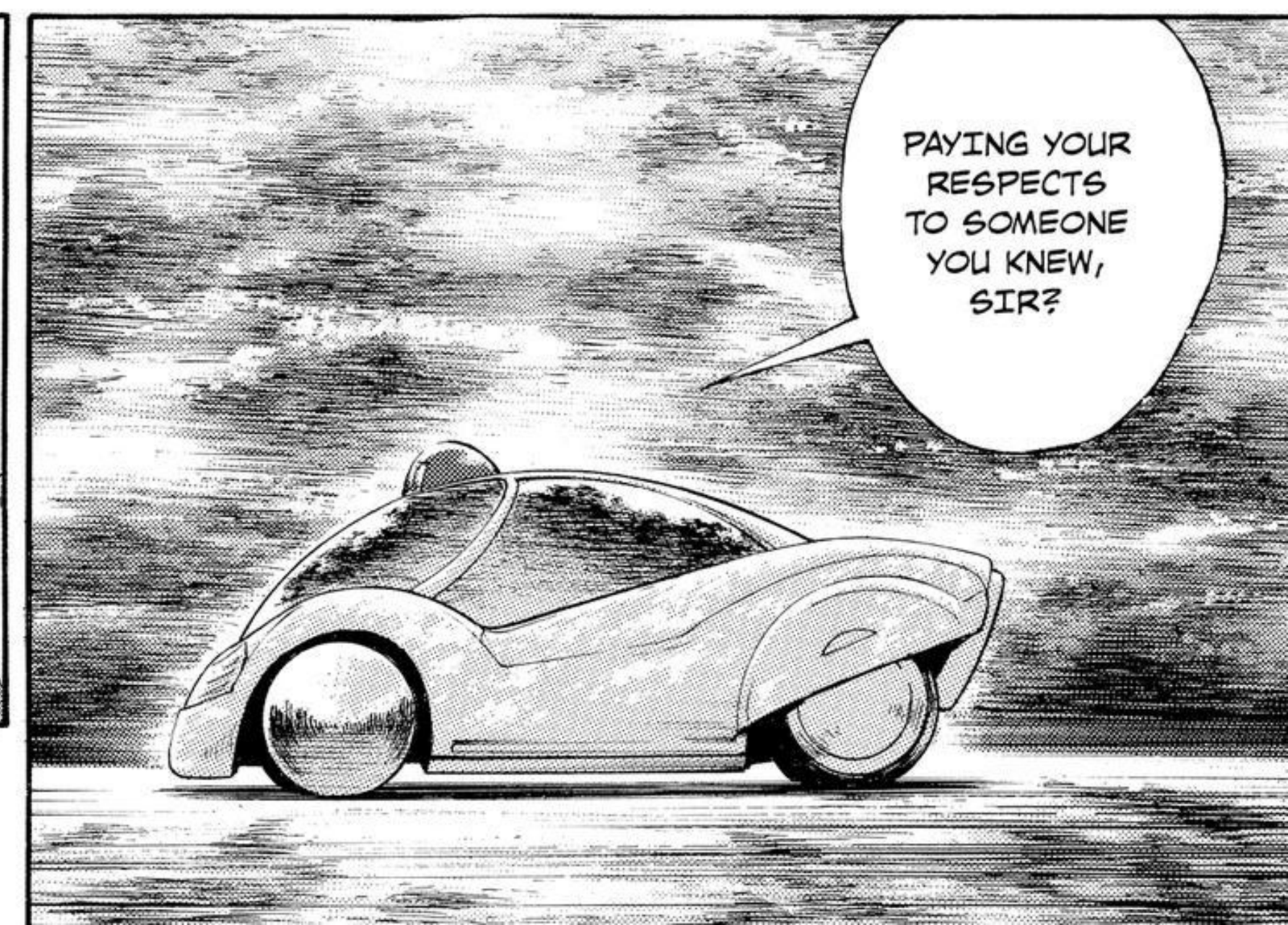


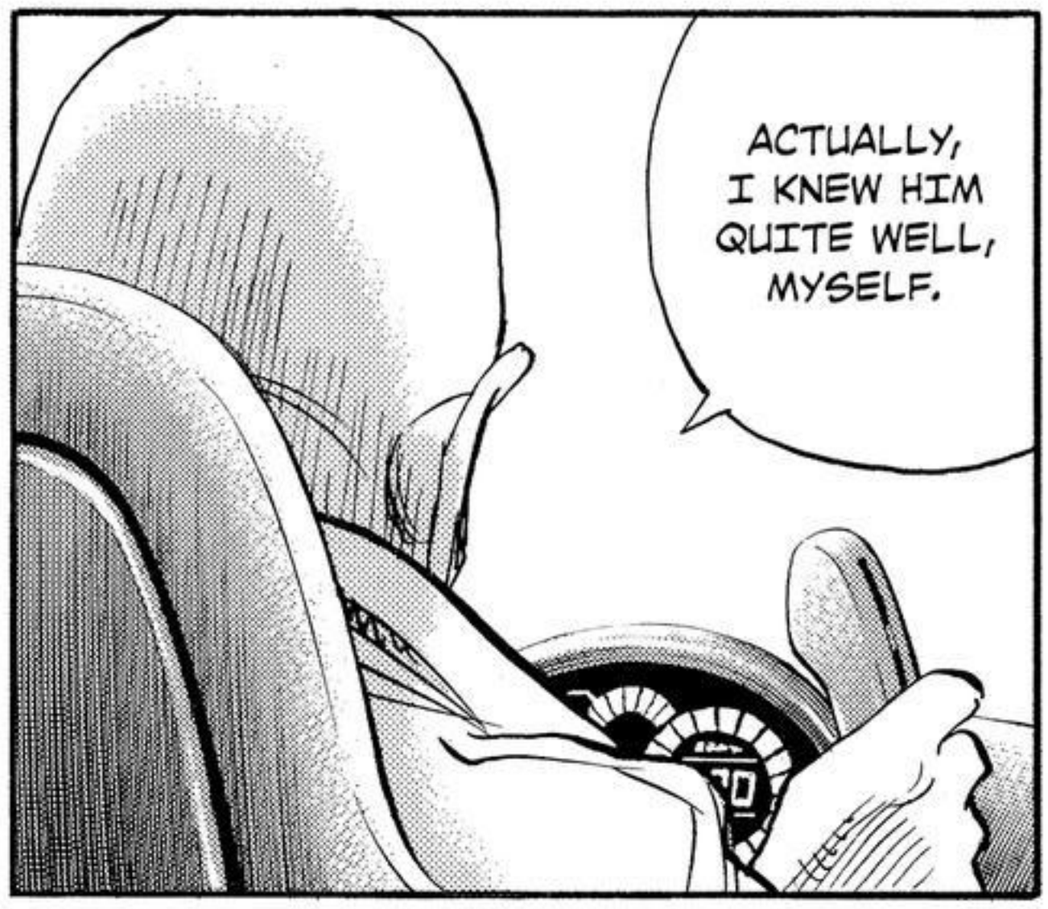
THANKS FOR WAITING. TAKE ME TO THE AIRPORT.
TAXI

SLAM
YES, SIR.

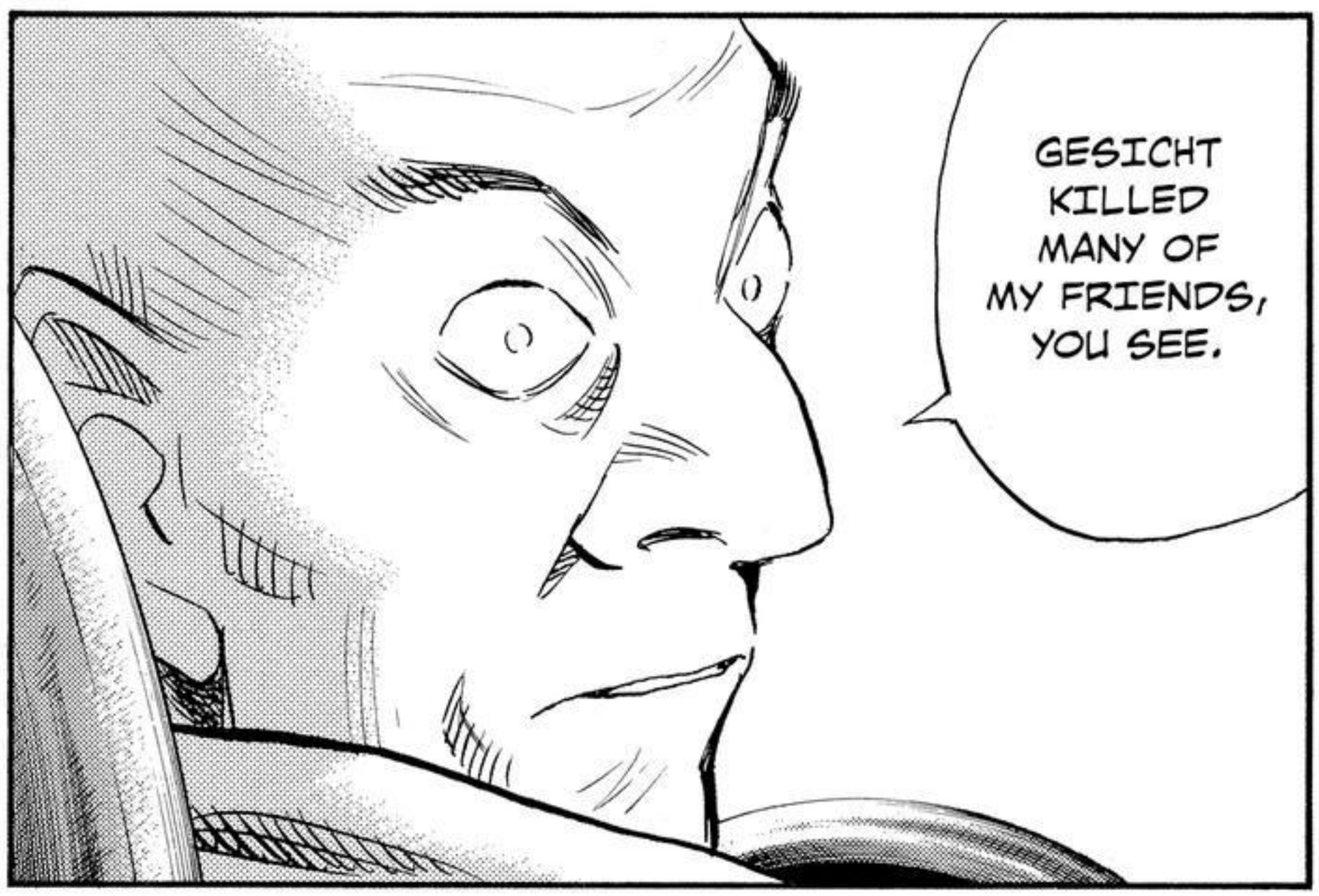


NO ONE I KNEW PERSONALLY...


PAYING YOUR RESPECTS TO SOMEONE YOU KNEW, SIR?

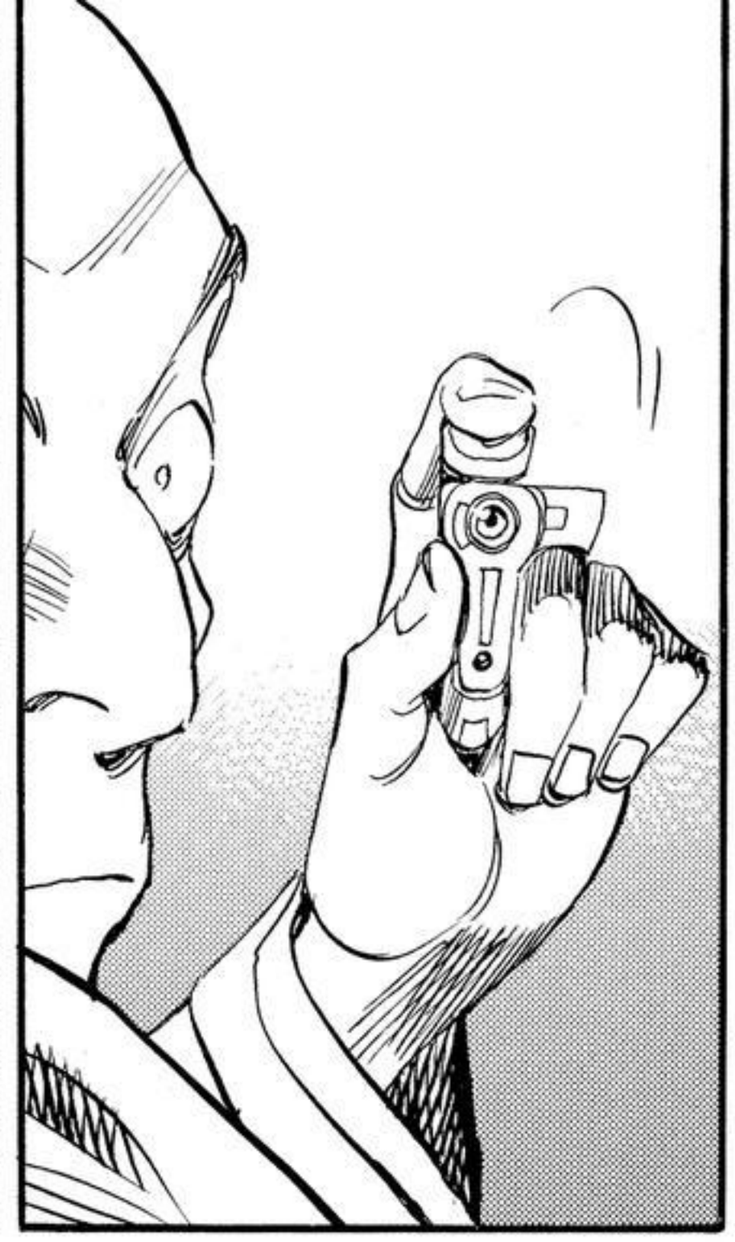

ACTUALLY, I KNEW HIM QUITE WELL, MYSELF.

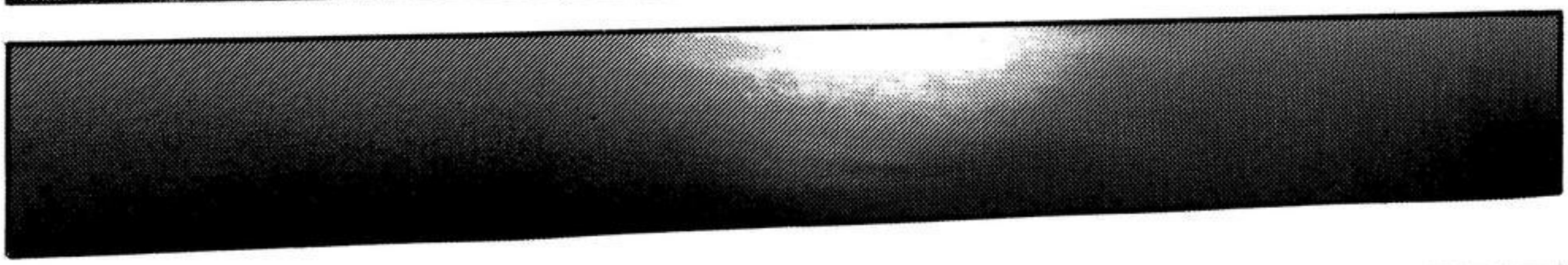
IS THAT SO...?
BUT HE HAD A GOOD RELATIONSHIP WITH MY SON.


GESICHT KILLED MANY OF MY FRIENDS, YOU SEE.

I CAN NEVER FORGIVE GESICHT.
I'M A ROBOT, BUT...
...WHAT WILL YOU DO?
AND IF YOU CAN'T FORGIVE HIM...

ZWP





MMPH ...
UNH...
VRMM
VRMM

W... WHERE AM I?

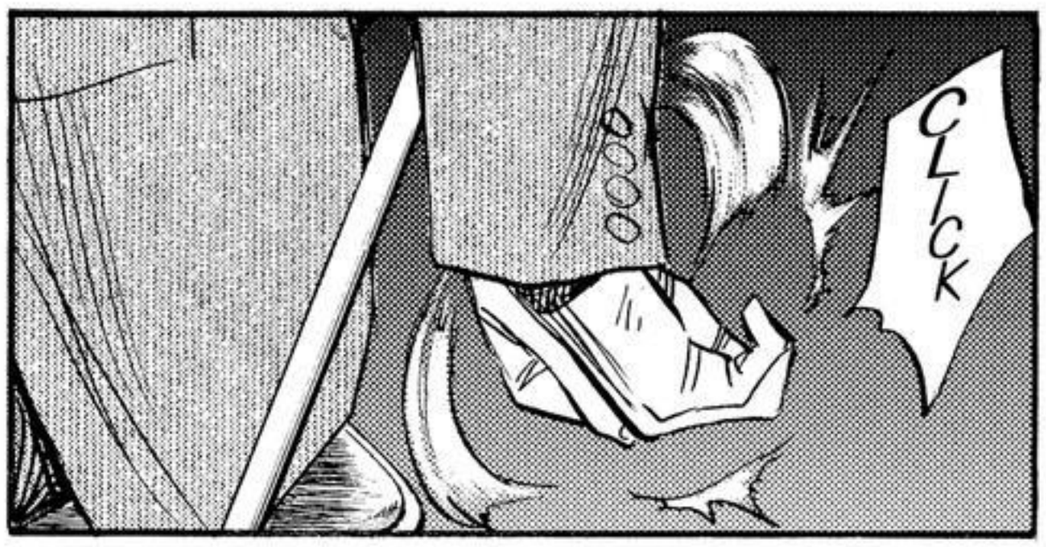
VRMM

VRMM

VRMM

LONG TIME NO SEE, PROFESSOR TENMA...

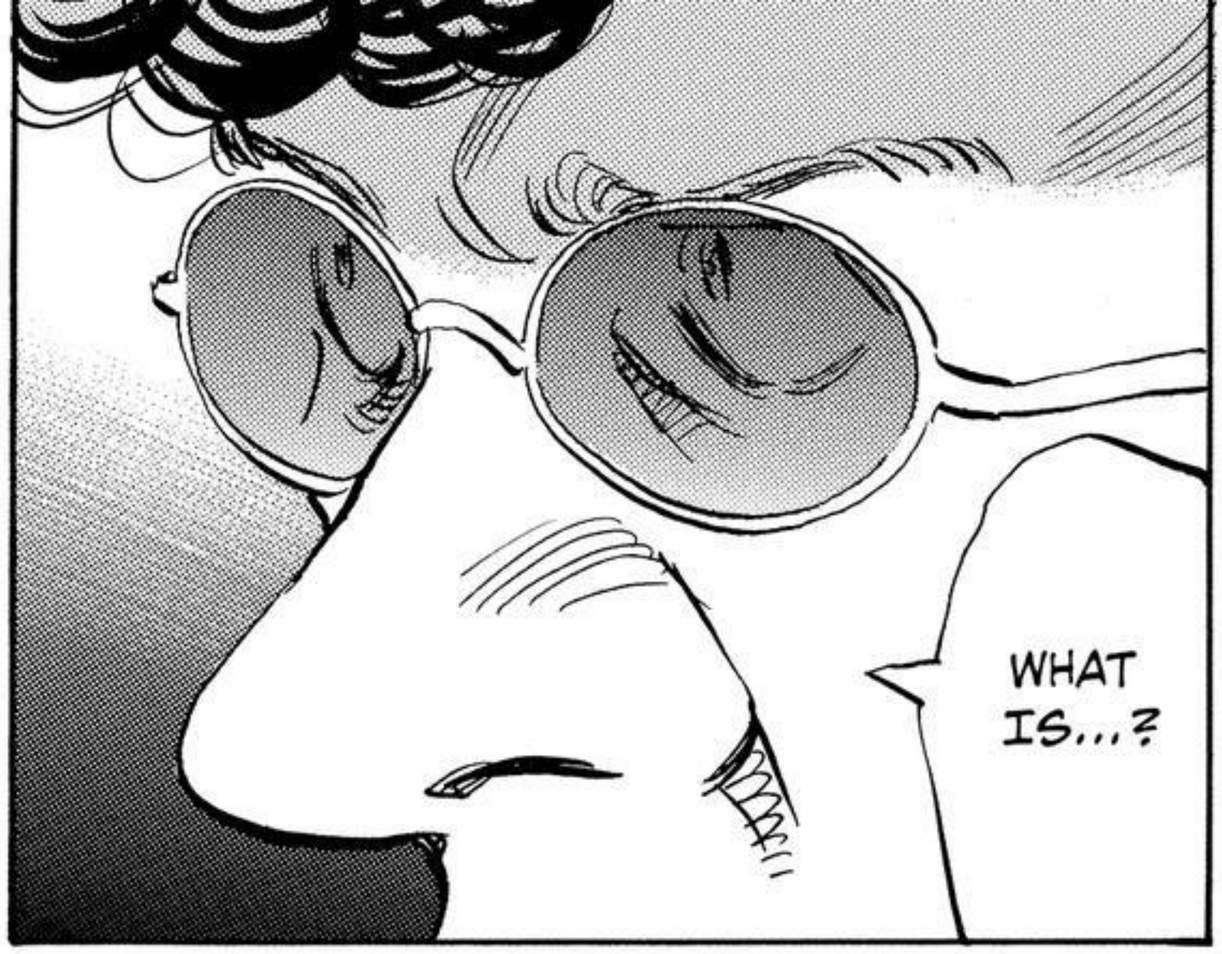
ABULLAH ...


CLICK

SO YOU KIDNAPPED ME AS BAIT TO LURE ATOM HERE?
NO. THERE'S NO NEED FOR THAT...

BECAUSE YOU'RE THE ONLY HUMAN WHO'S AS SOPHISTICATED AS I AM...

THEN WHY BRING ME HERE?



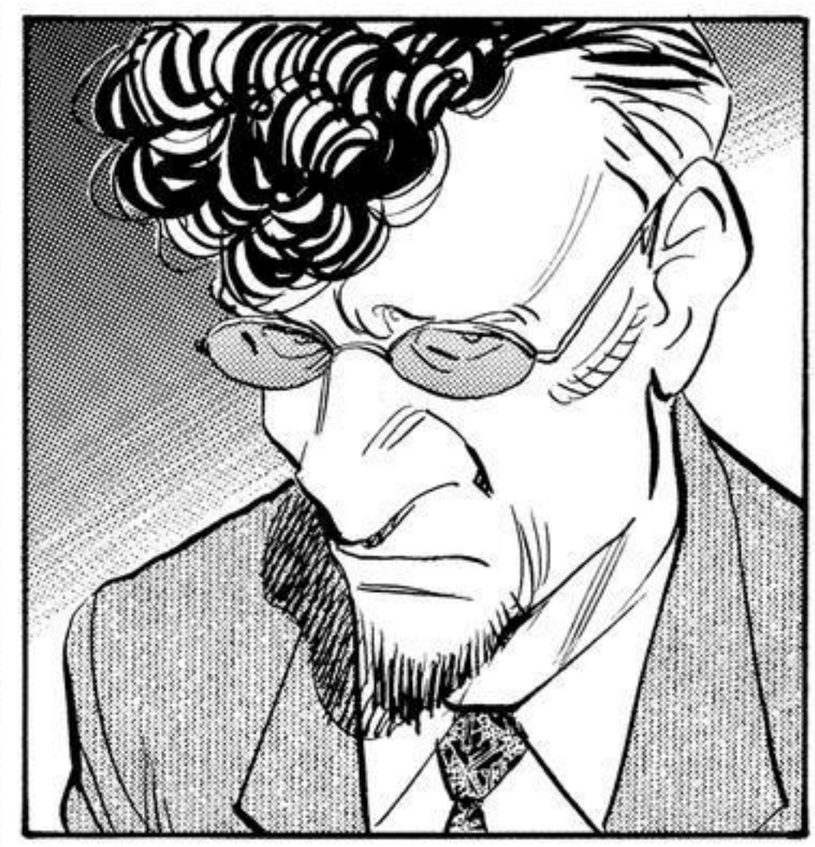
ZOOON

ZOOON

A MASTER-PIECE CREATED BY A GENIUS OF A SCIENTIST NAMED GOJI...
THAT'S BORA...

NO...
IS... IS THAT PLUTO?

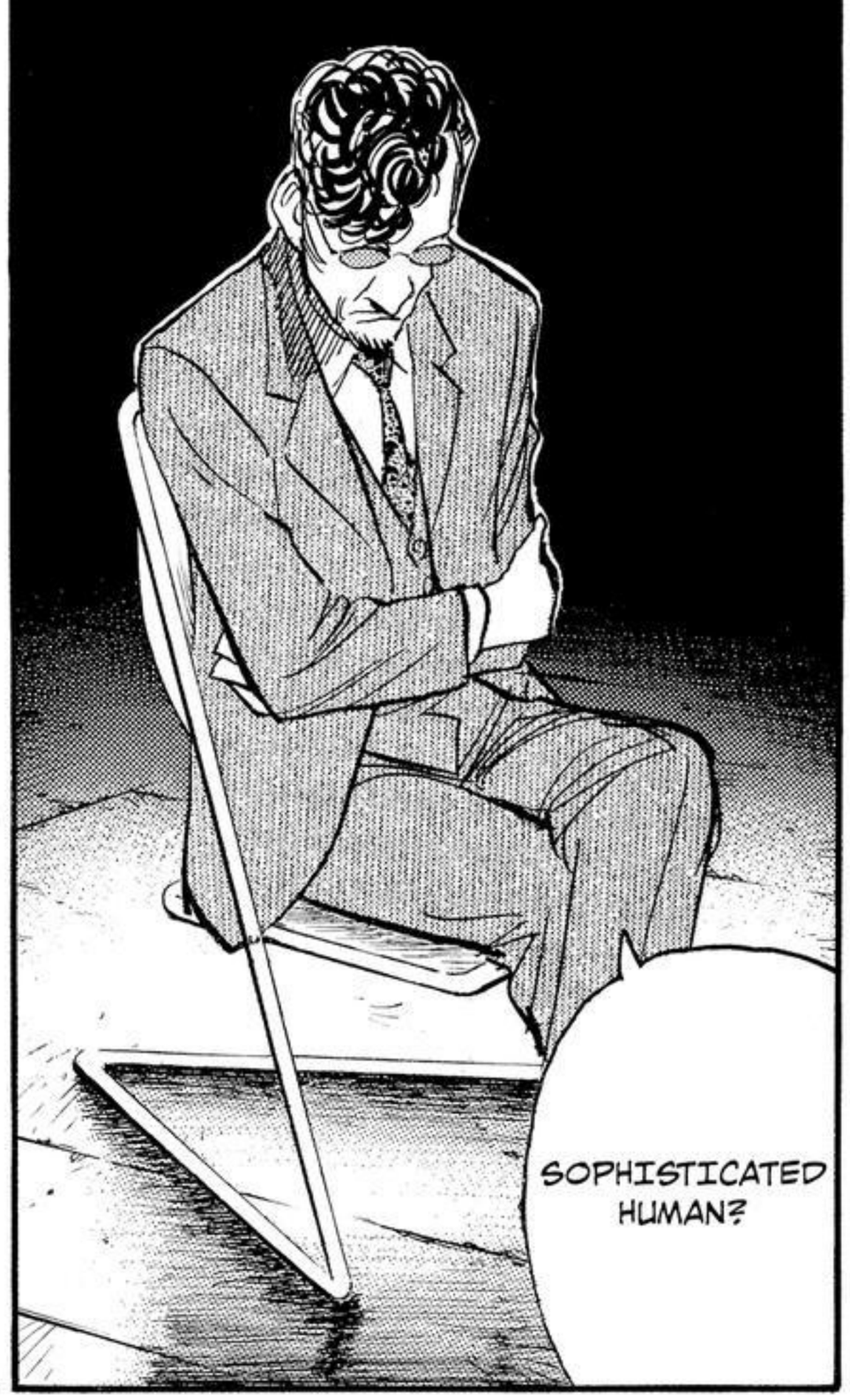
BUT RIGHT NOW BORA'S JUST A PUPPET-- ONE THAT ONLY MOVES IN RESPONSE TO MY OWN BRAIN WAVES...



MY REAL PLAN, PROFESSOR TENMA...
...IS TO TRANSPLANT MY OWN BRAIN INTO BORA.

I SHALL CREATE THE WORLD'S MOST SOPHISTICATED AND POWERFUL CYBORG!

YOU'RE NOT HUMAN, ABULLAH.


SOPHISTICATED HUMAN?

YOU'RE A *ROBOT.*
YOU'RE NO CYBORG...

IT'S TRUE MOST OF MY BODY WAS DESTROYED IN THE WAR, SO IT *CAN* BE SAID THAT I'M LIKE A CYBORG. BUT I'M STILL HUMAN!
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?

I KNOW YOU FROM BEFORE... AND YOU KNOW WHY?
THAT'S NONSENSE, TENMA!

BECAUSE I CREATED YOU! YOU'RE A ROBOT!

THE REAL ABULLAH ASKED ME TO CREATE A ROBOT...

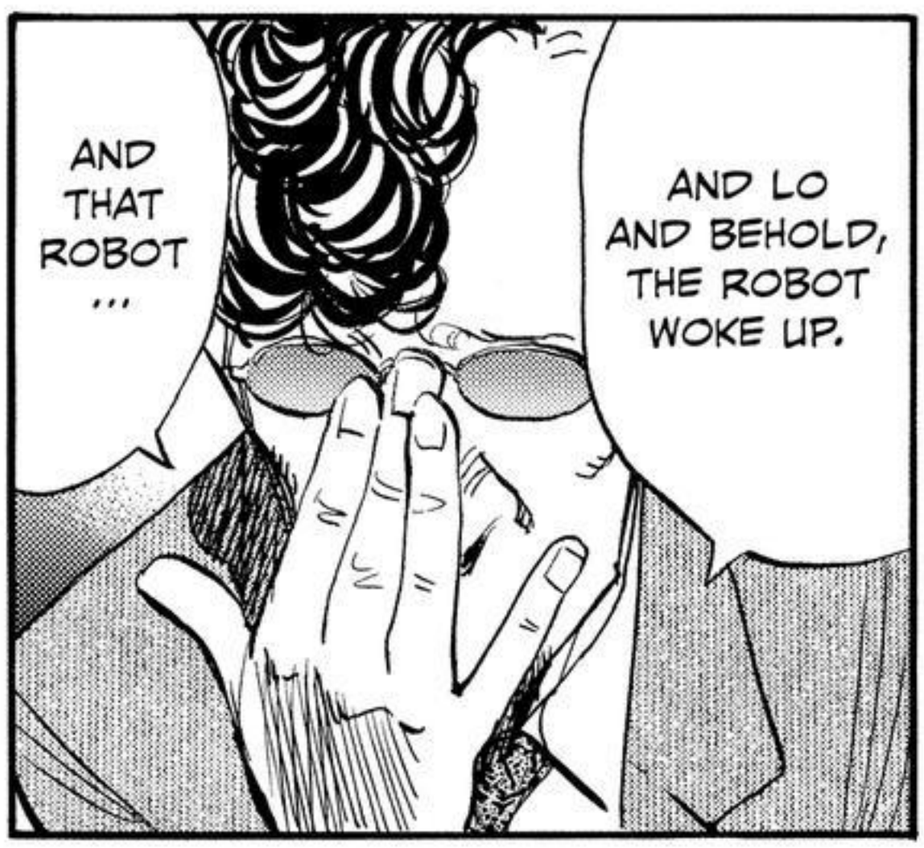
RIDICULOUS ...

SO I CONDUCTED AN EXPERIMENT...

BUT THE ROBOT'S AI WAS TOO COMPLEX, AND IT NEVER GAINED CONSCIOUS-NESS...

A PERFECT ROBOT.

I INTRODUCED INTO THE ROBOT THE REAL ABULLAH'S FINAL EMOTION-- WHAT HE WAS FEELING MOMENTS BEFORE HE DIED.



THE MOST ADVANCED AI'S IN THE WORLD...

I LIE...? I'LL TELL YOU ONE MORE THING...

YOU LIE...

THEY CAN EVEN LIE TO *THEM-SELVES.*

...ARE CAPABLE OF LYING.

YOU'RE THE REAL GOJI... IT'S YOU!

...IS ALL NONSENSE.

THIS TALK OF GOJI, THE GENIUS SCIENTIST ...

YOU LIE!!

YOU LIE!

YOU LIE...

ME...? GOJI?

YOUR AI HAS ALREADY BEEN TRANSFERRED TO A NUMBER OF OTHER ROBOTS.

YOU DON'T NEED ME TO DO A TRANSPLANT FOR YOU.

...

THEN WHERE *IS* GOJI?

PUT AN END TO THIS...

YOU LIE!!!

YOU LIE!

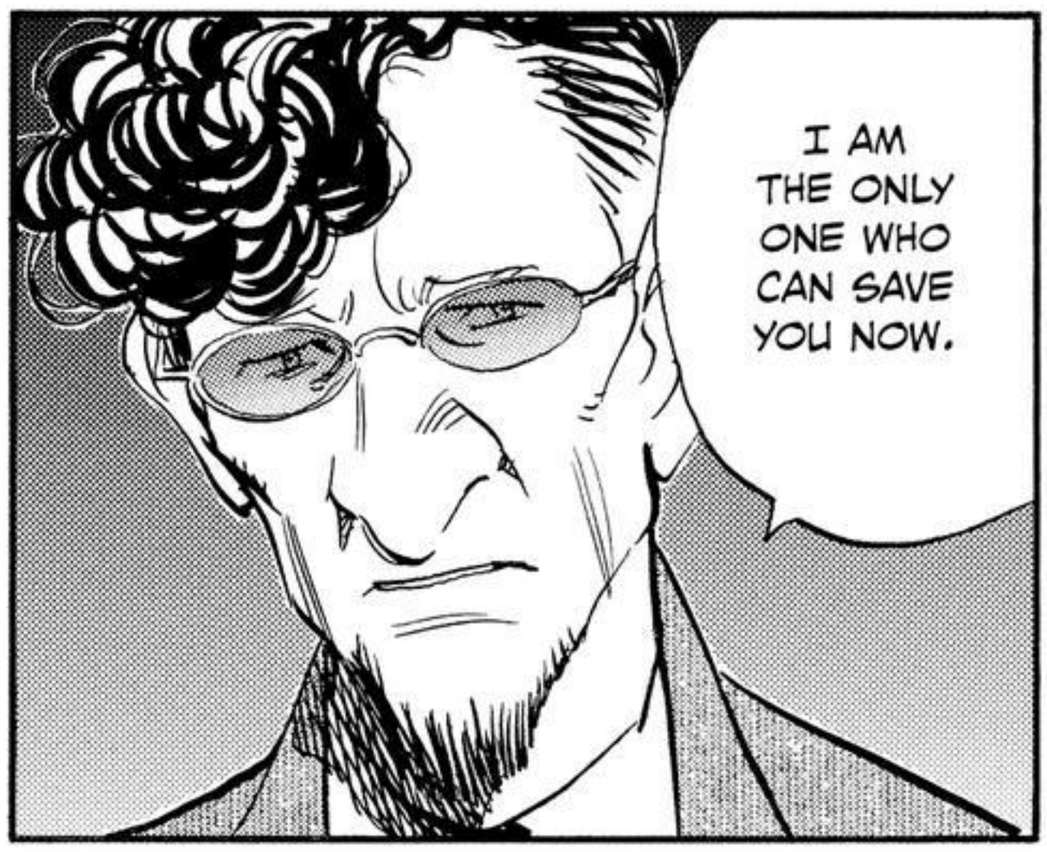
YOU LIE!

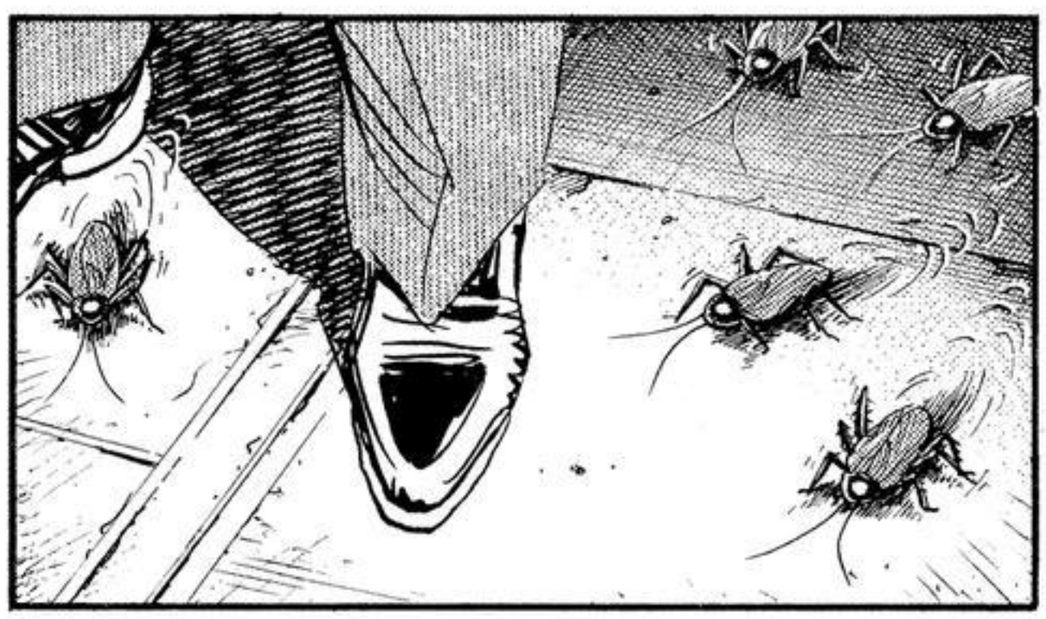
THE WORLD FULLY UNDER-STANDS YOUR SUFFERING.

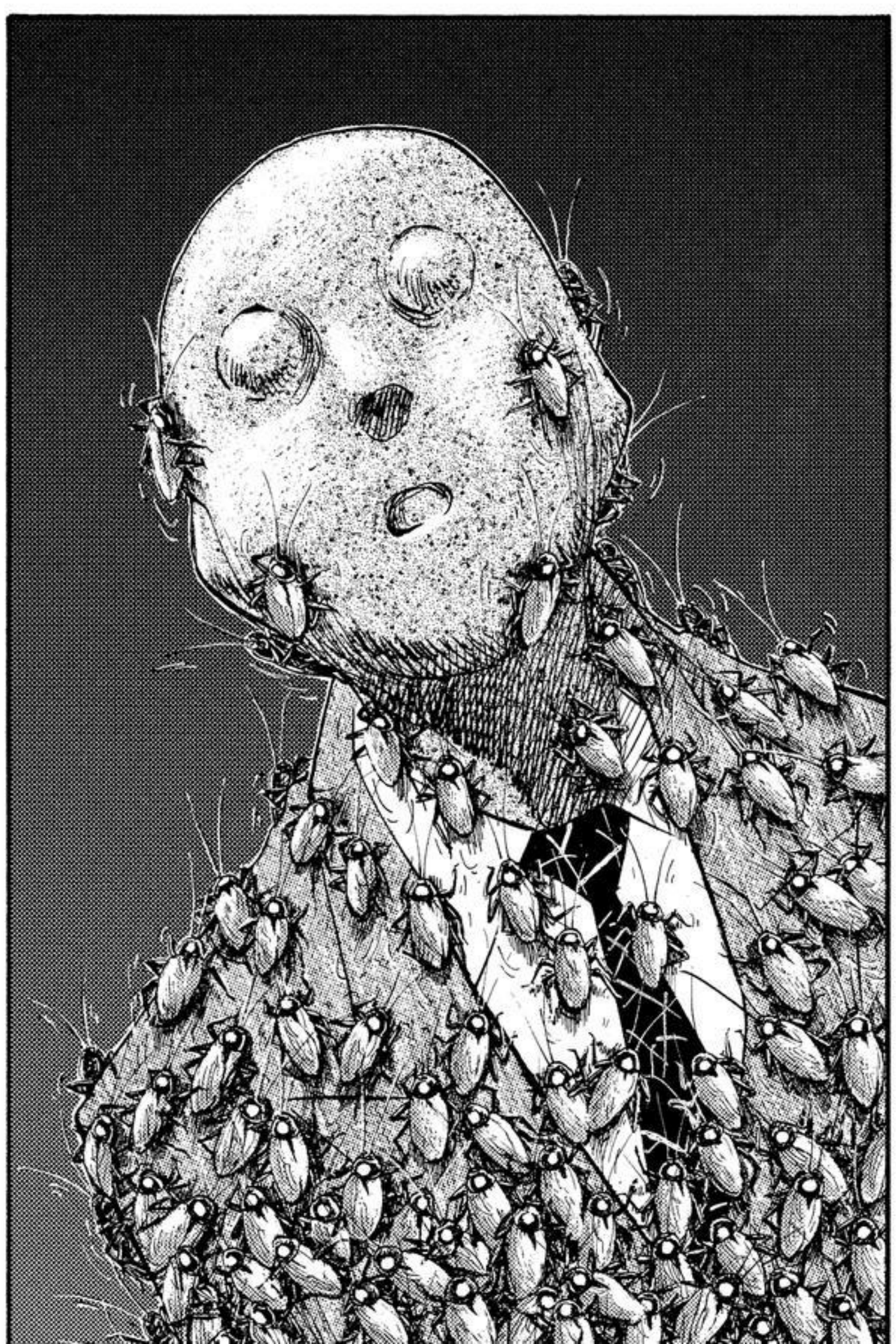
NO!!!!!!

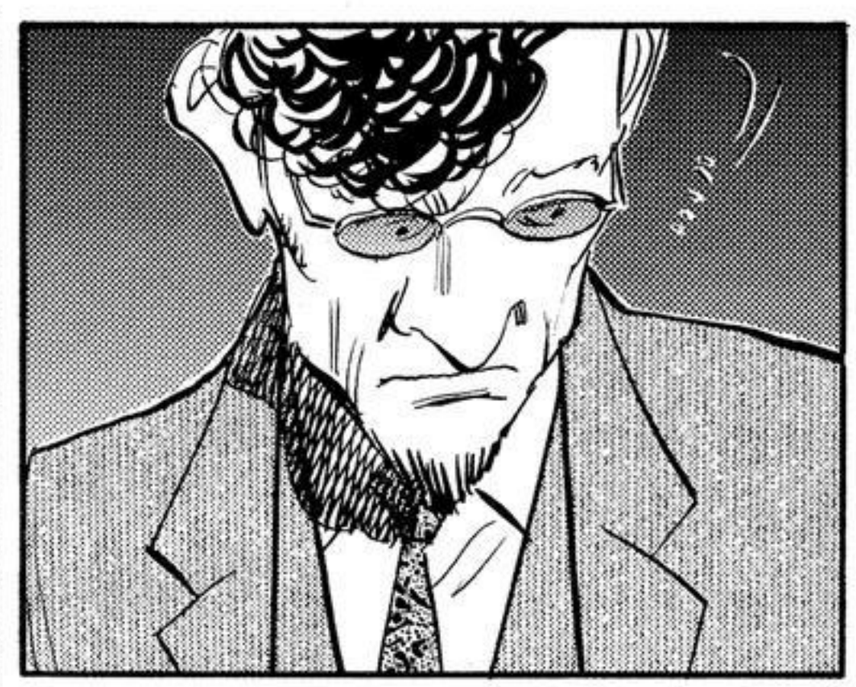
NO!!!!!!

NO...!!!

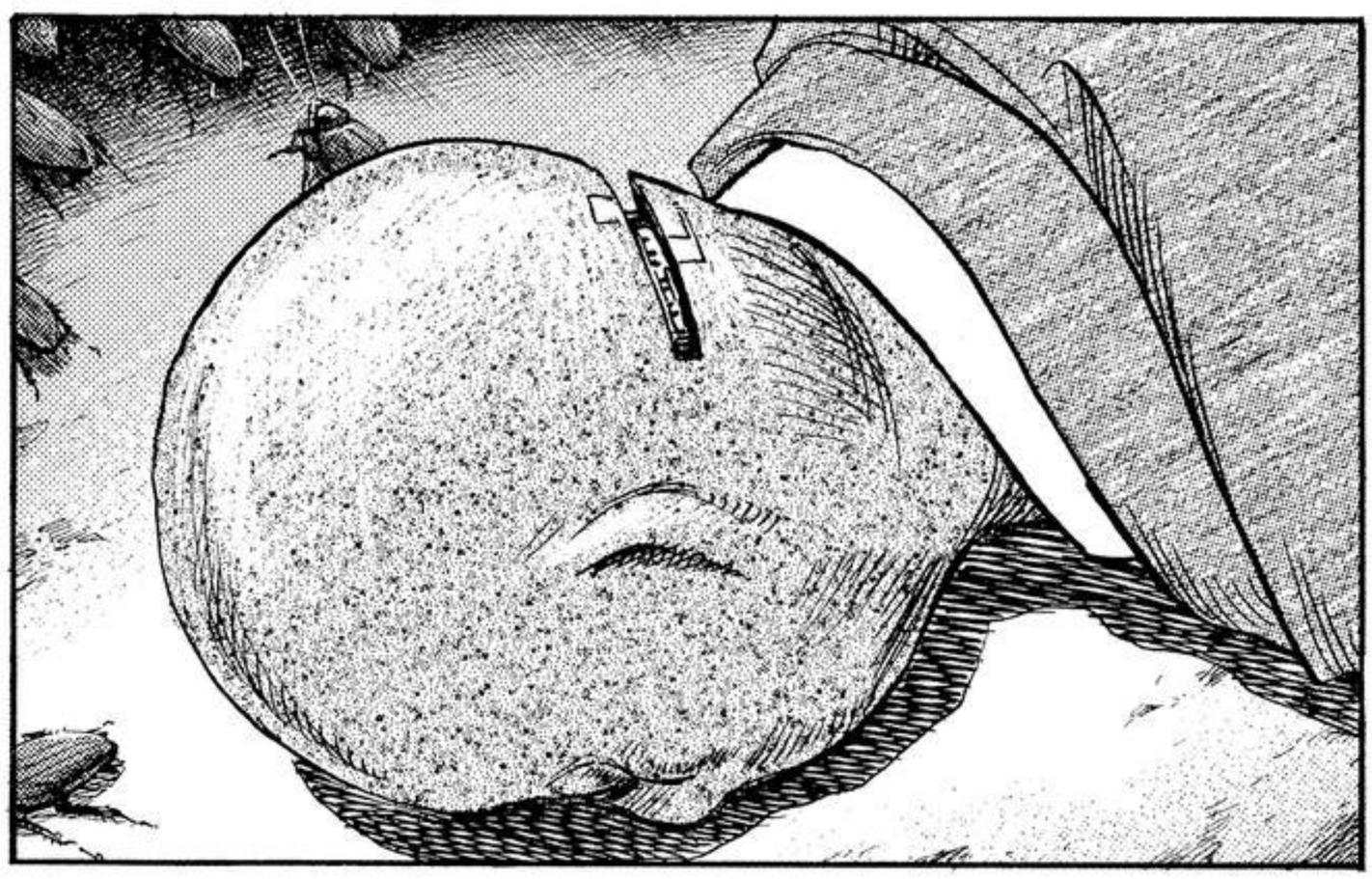

I AM THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN SAVE YOU NOW.







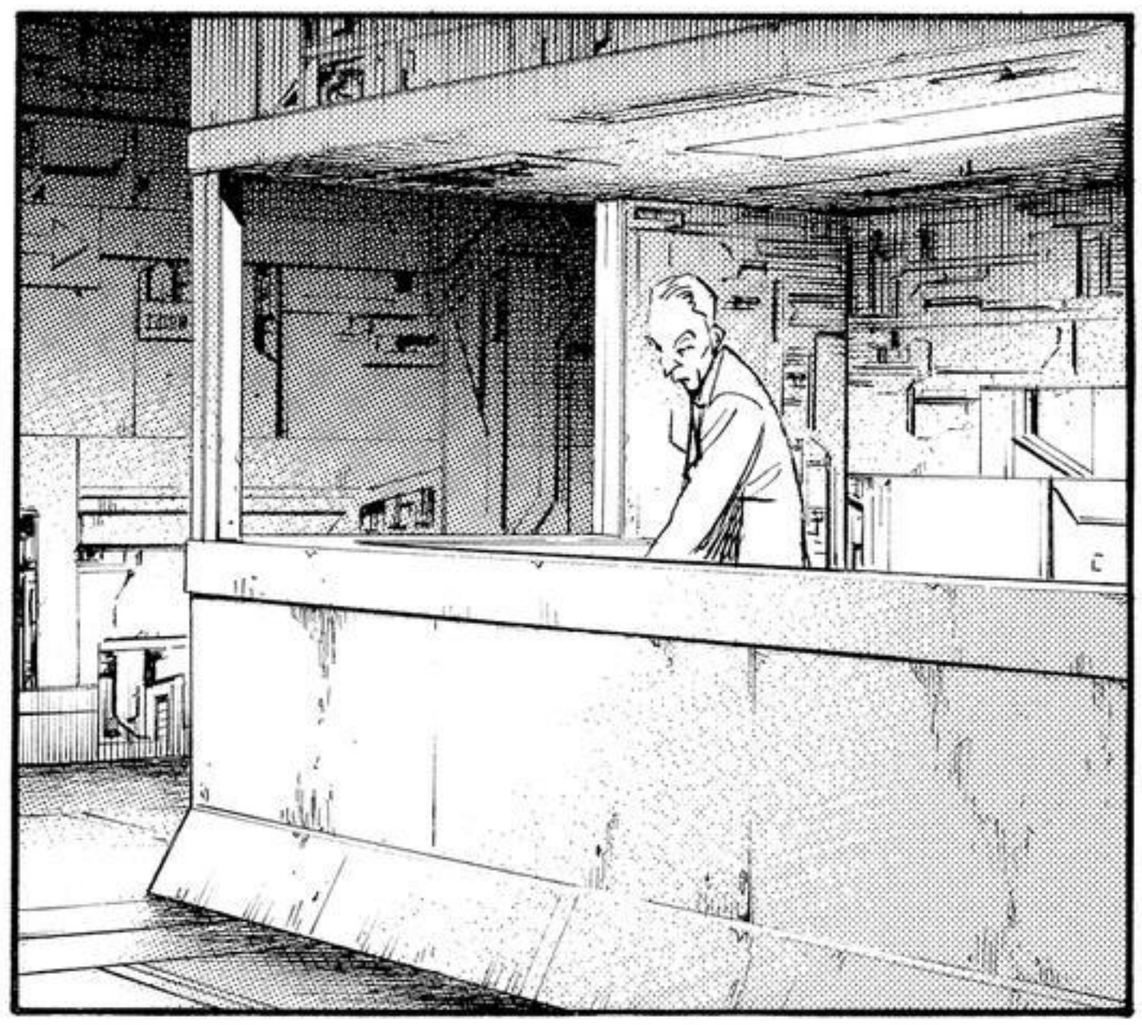
HUUUP



HIS AI...

IT'S BEEN *REMOVED*!

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE CORRECTIONAL FACILITY, GERMANY



I'M SO PLEASED.

IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME...

BZZT

KRK

WELL, WELL...

BZZ

BZZT

BZZ

TO MEET MY OLD FRIEND AGAIN.

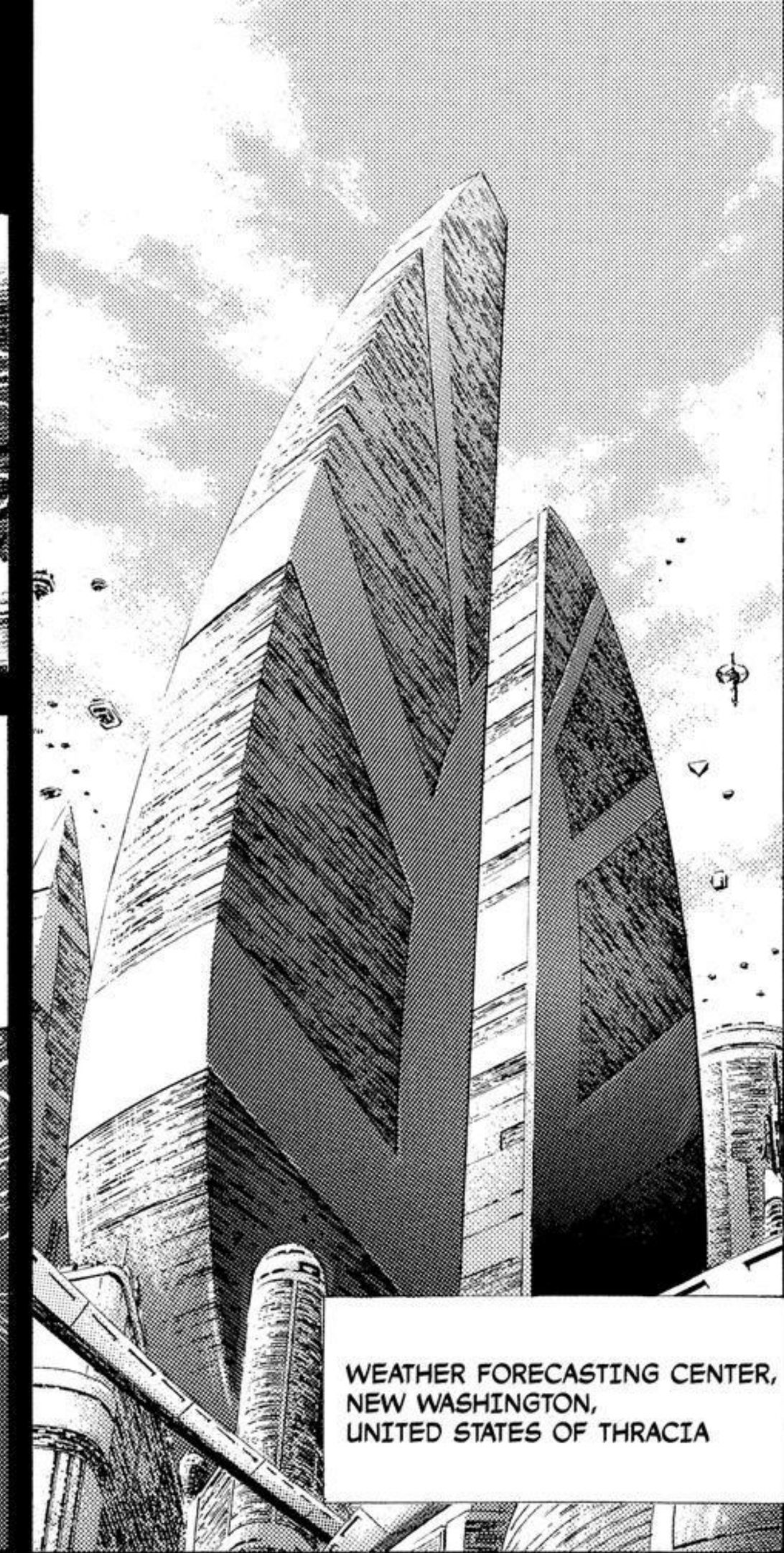
BZZRT

COME A BIT CLOSER, WON'T YOU...?

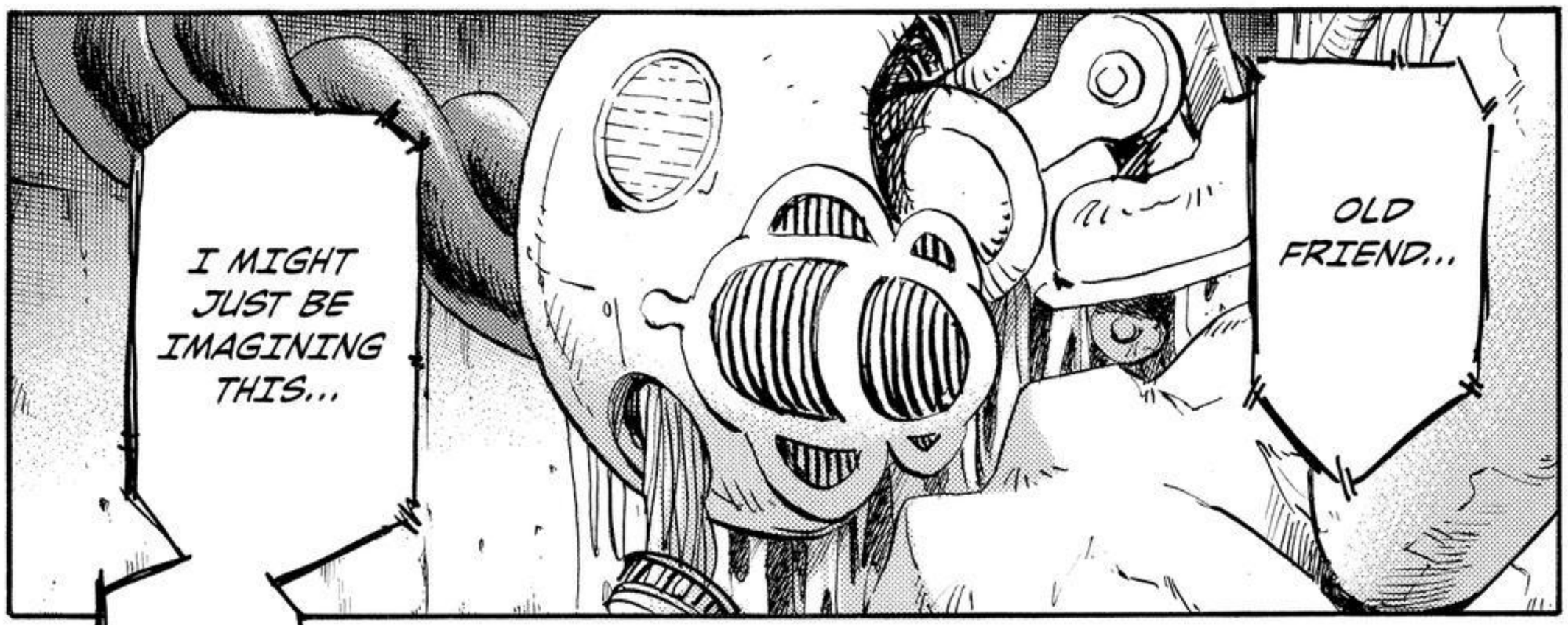
BZZT

I'VE A FAVOR TO ASK OF YOU...

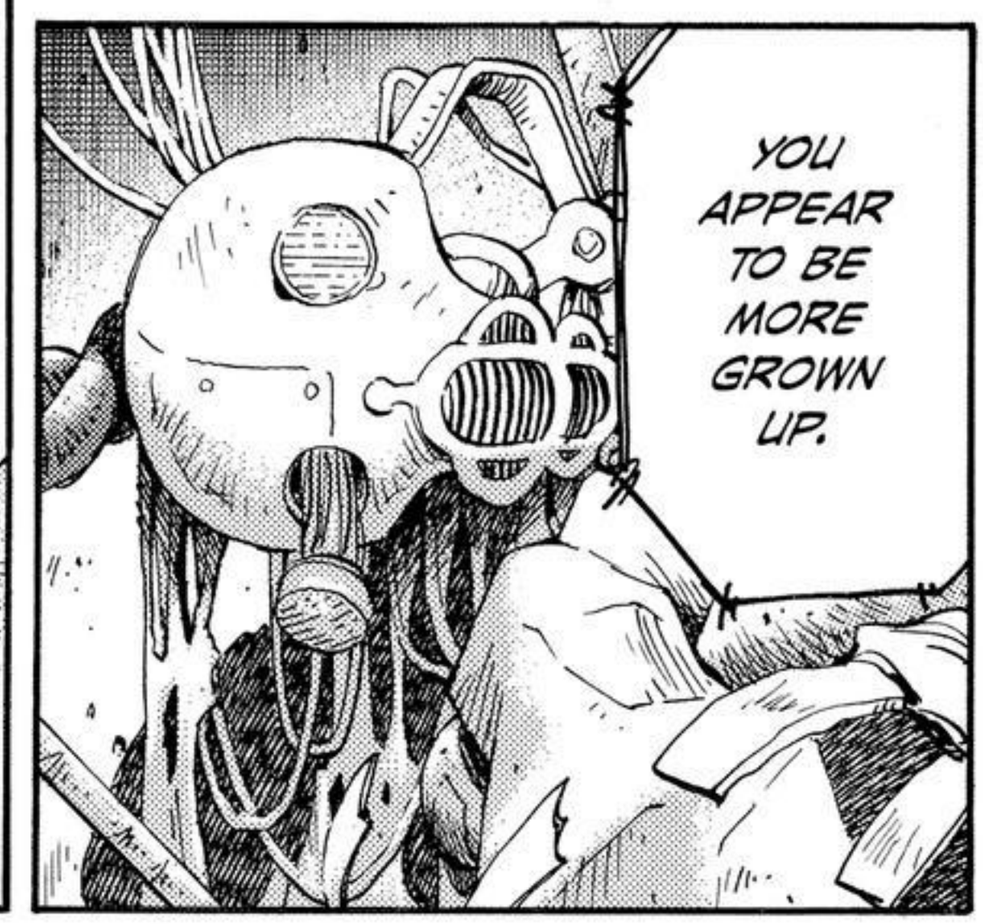
Act 59 VARIOUS REUNIONS

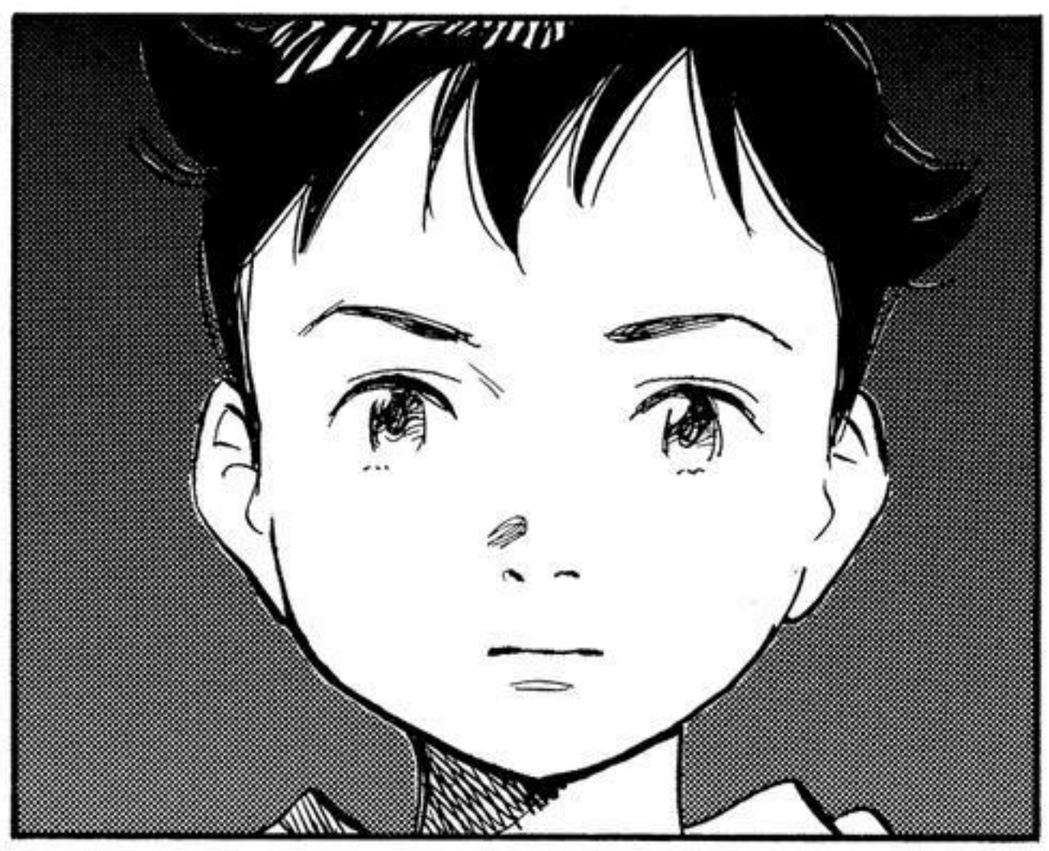


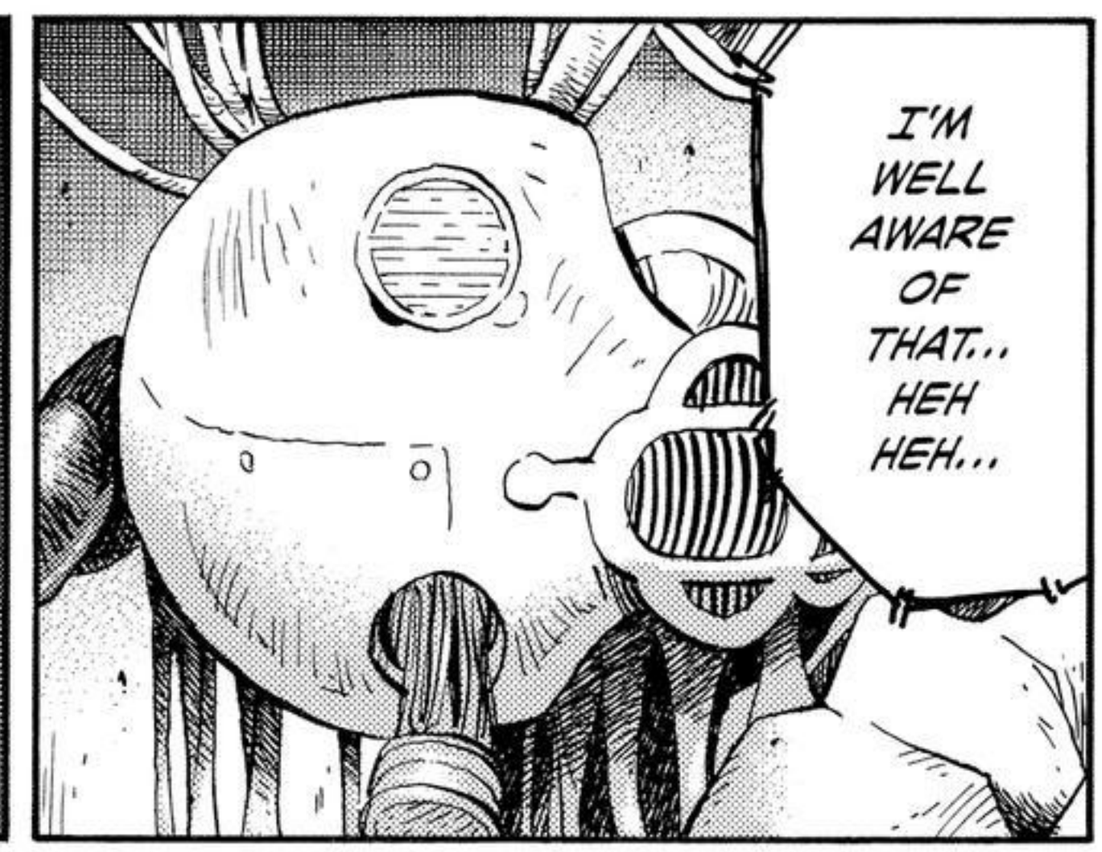
VRRN
VRRN
VRRN
VRRN



I'M A ROBOT.
I CAN'T GROW.

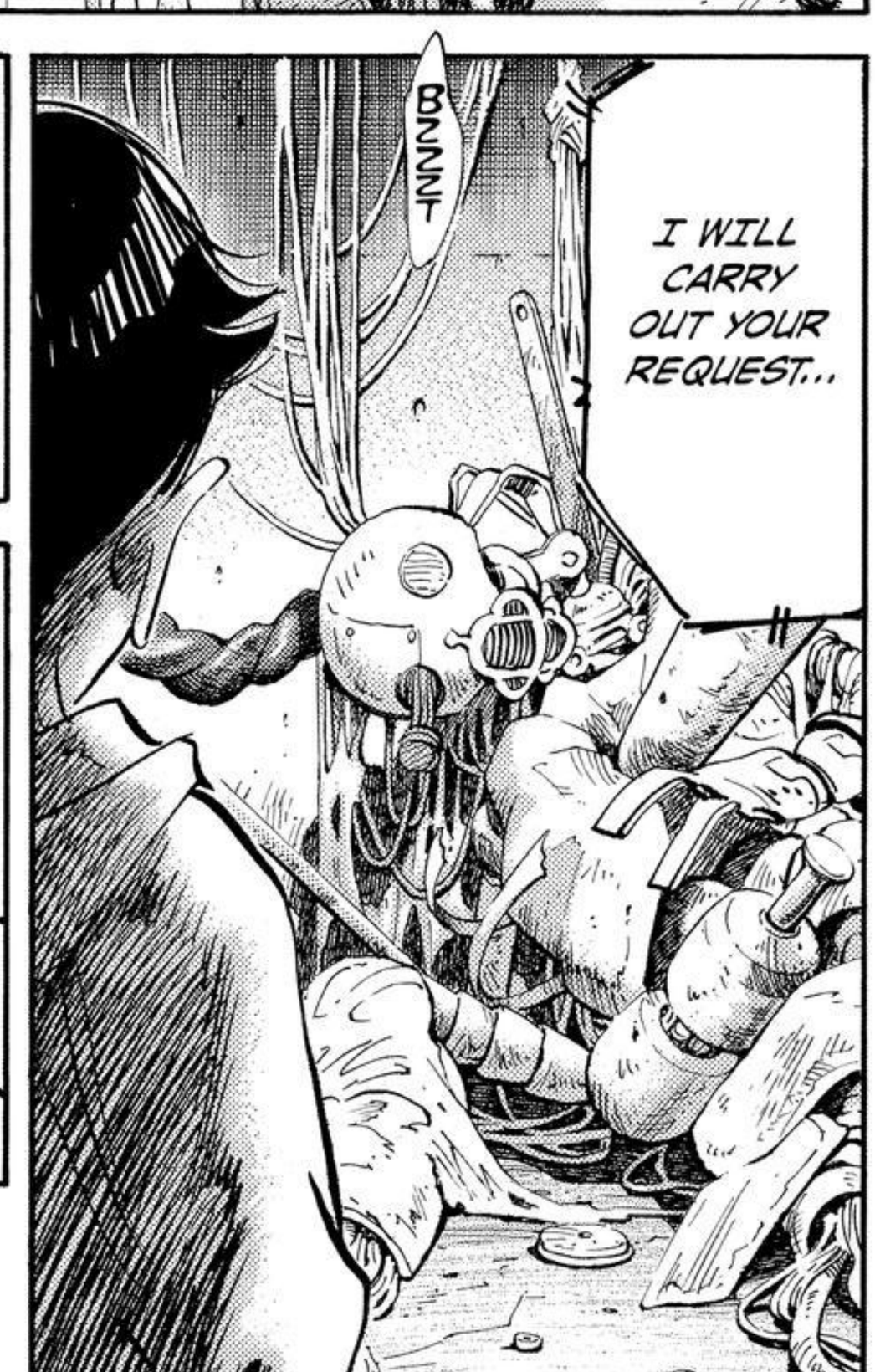

YOU APPEAR TO BE MORE GROWN UP.

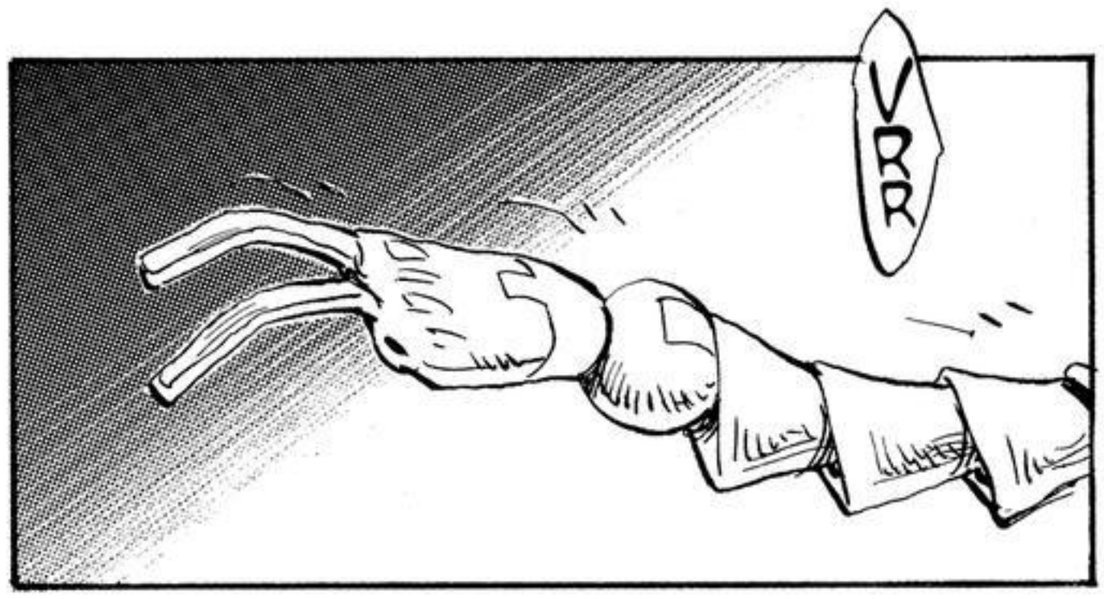


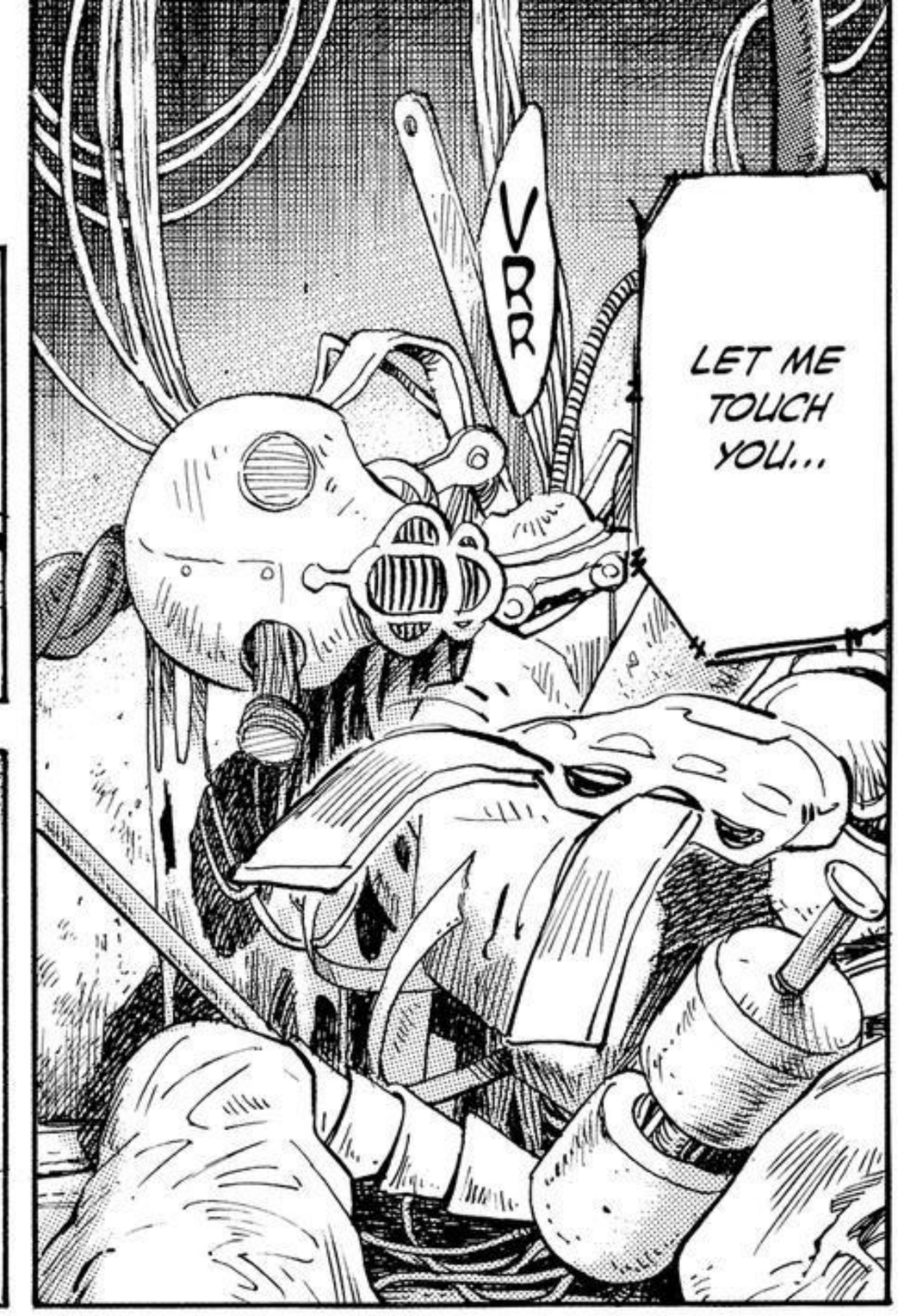

I'M WELL AWARE OF THAT... HEH HEH...

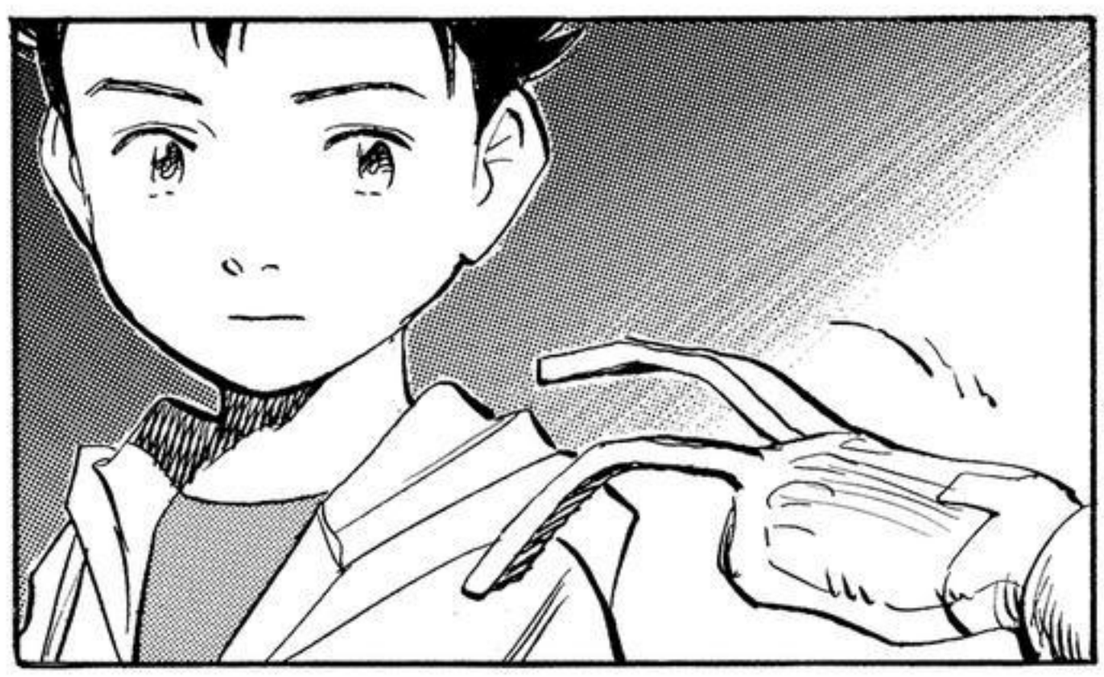
THANK YOU. I'LL BE GOING THEN...

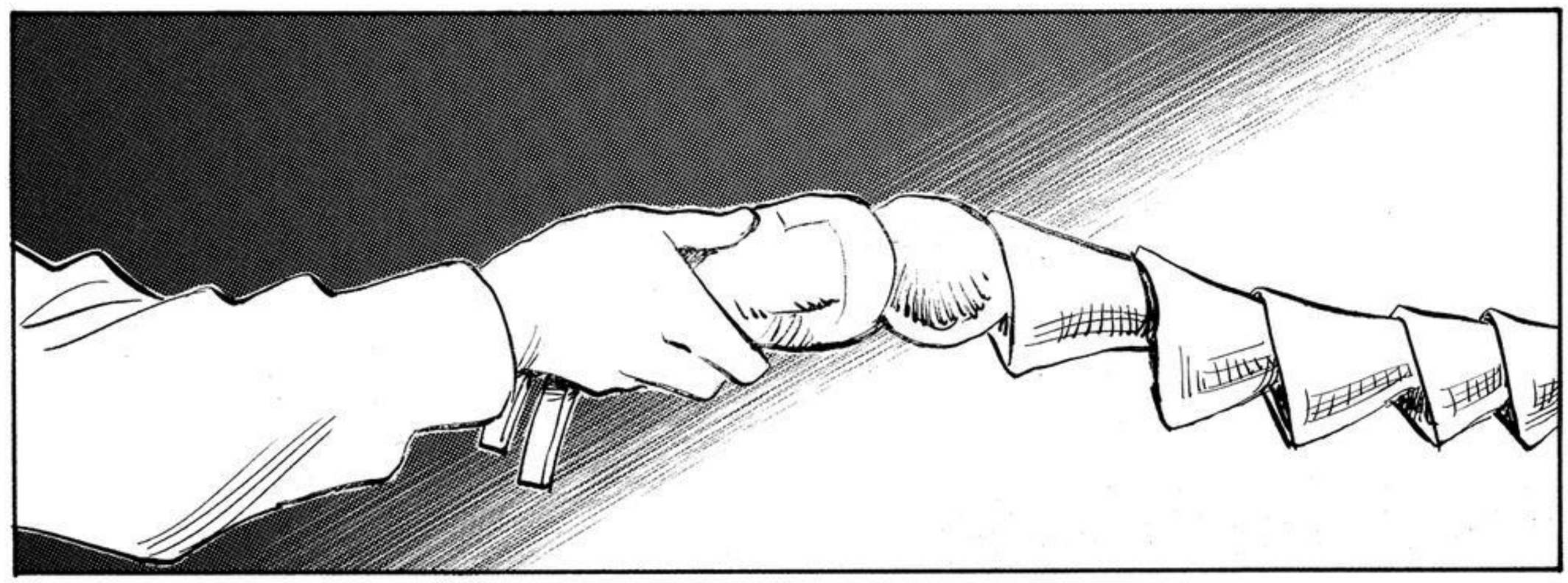
VRR
W... WAIT! JUST A MOMENT.

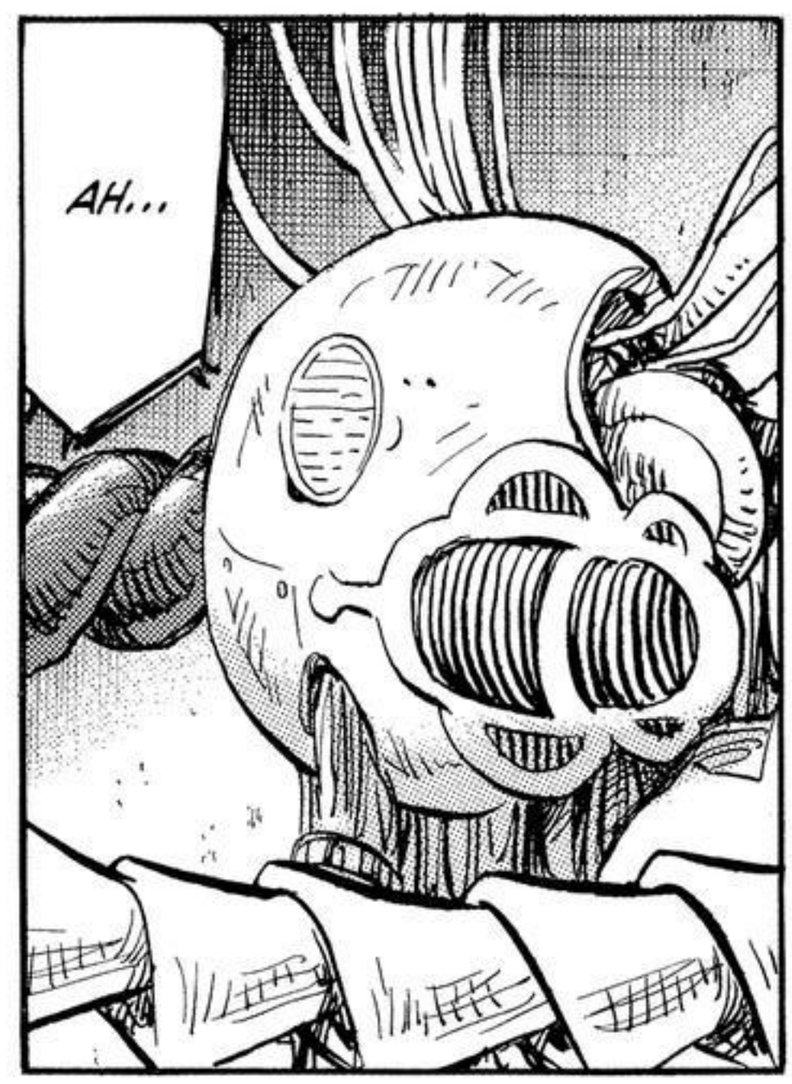

BNNNT
I WILL CARRY OUT YOUR REQUEST...

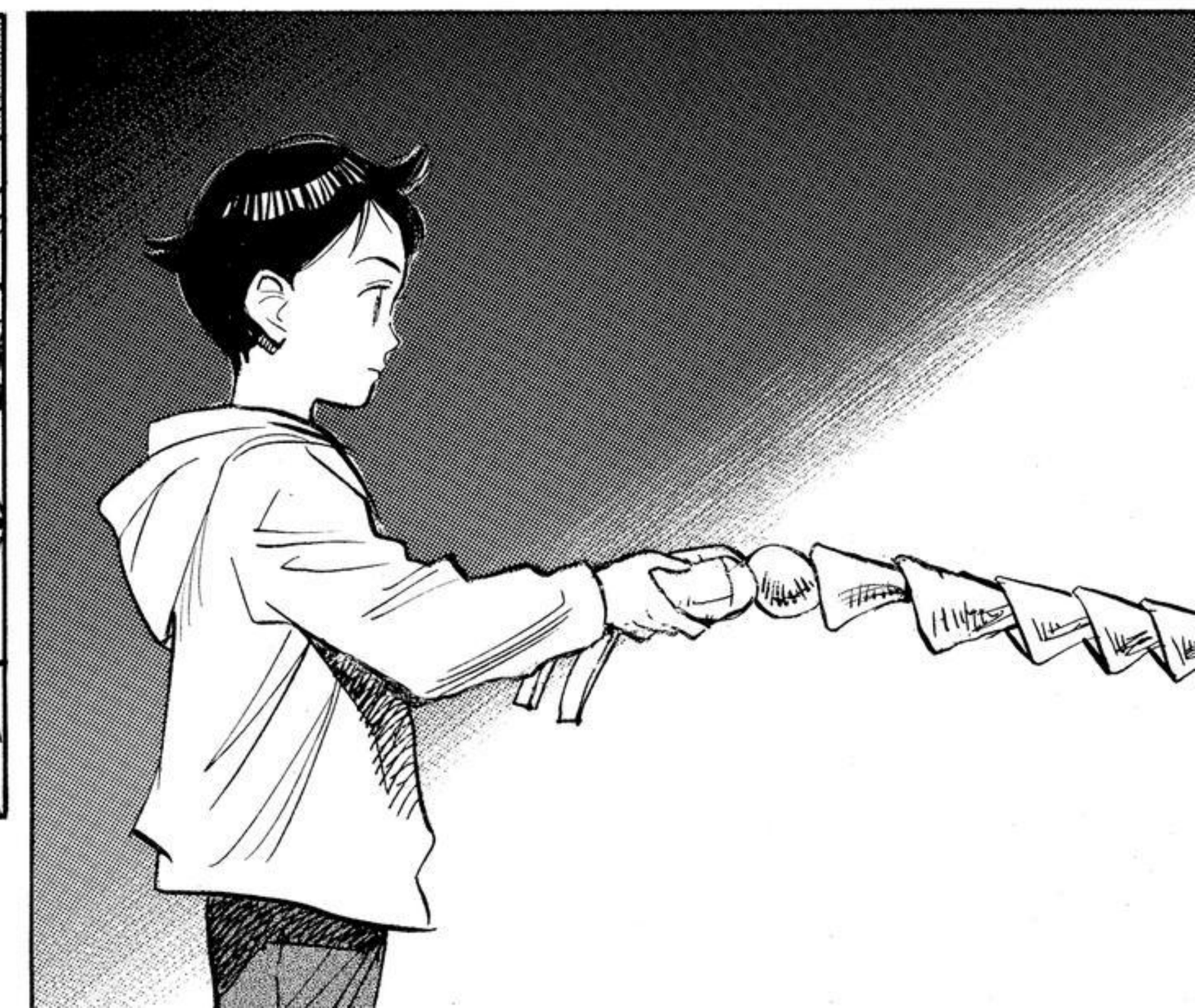

VRR


VRR
LET ME TOUCH YOU...

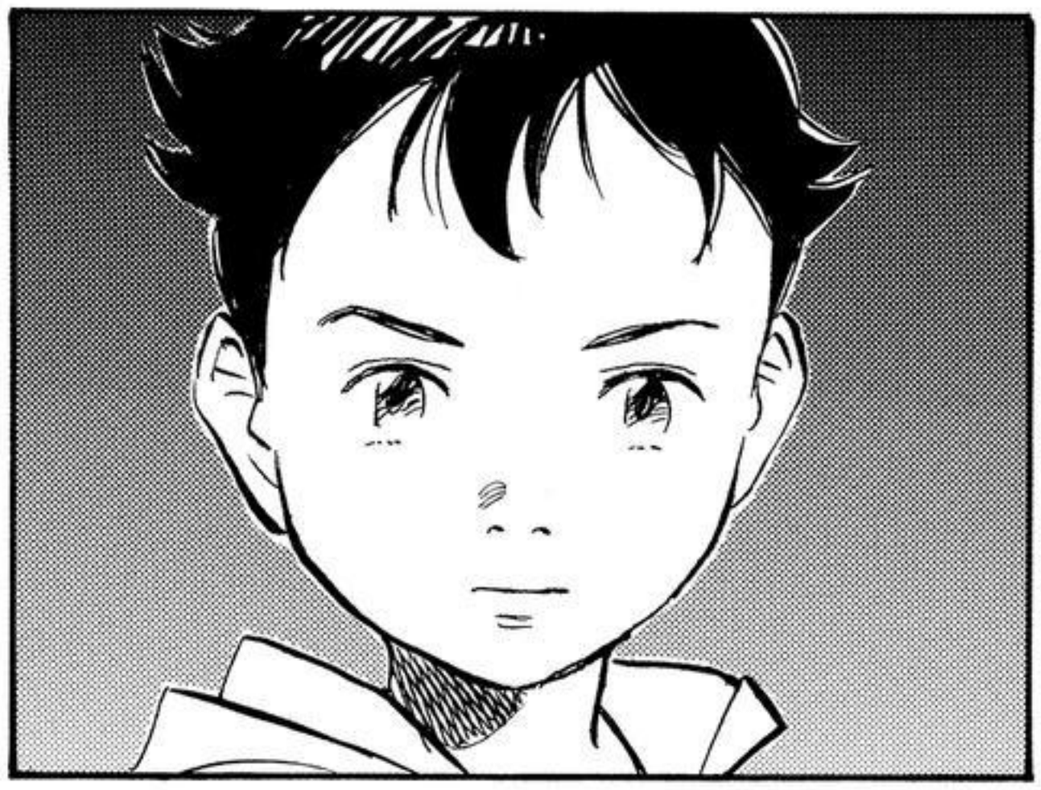


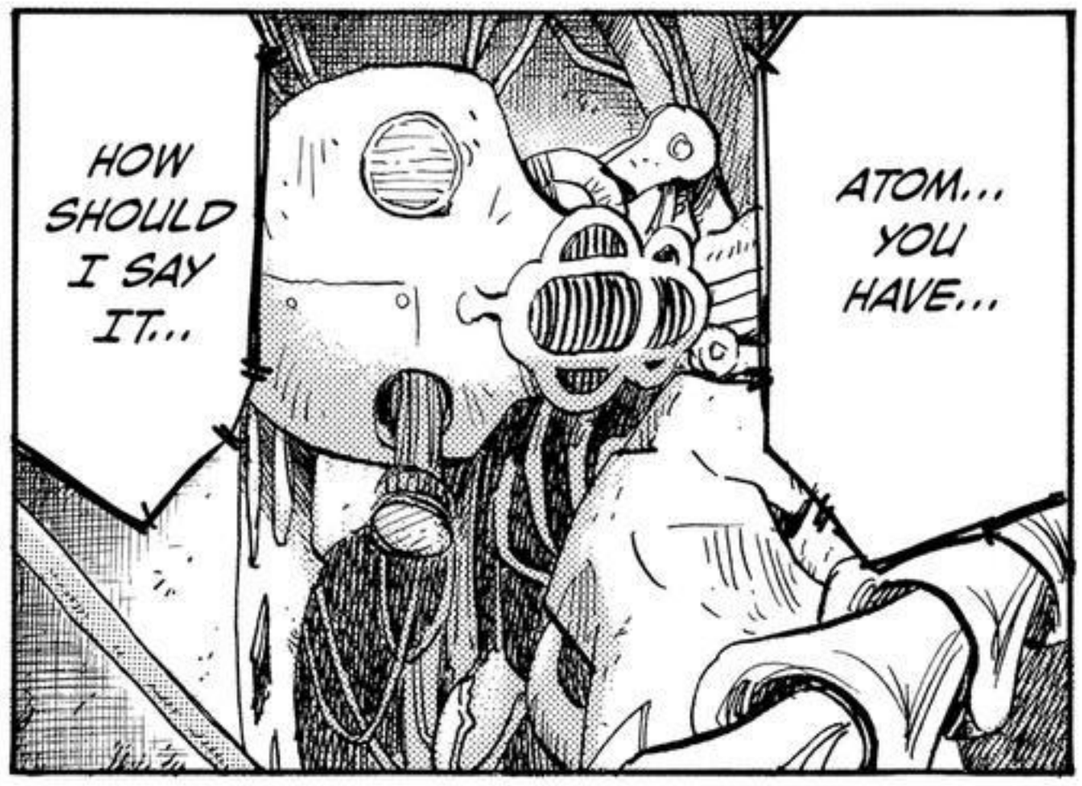


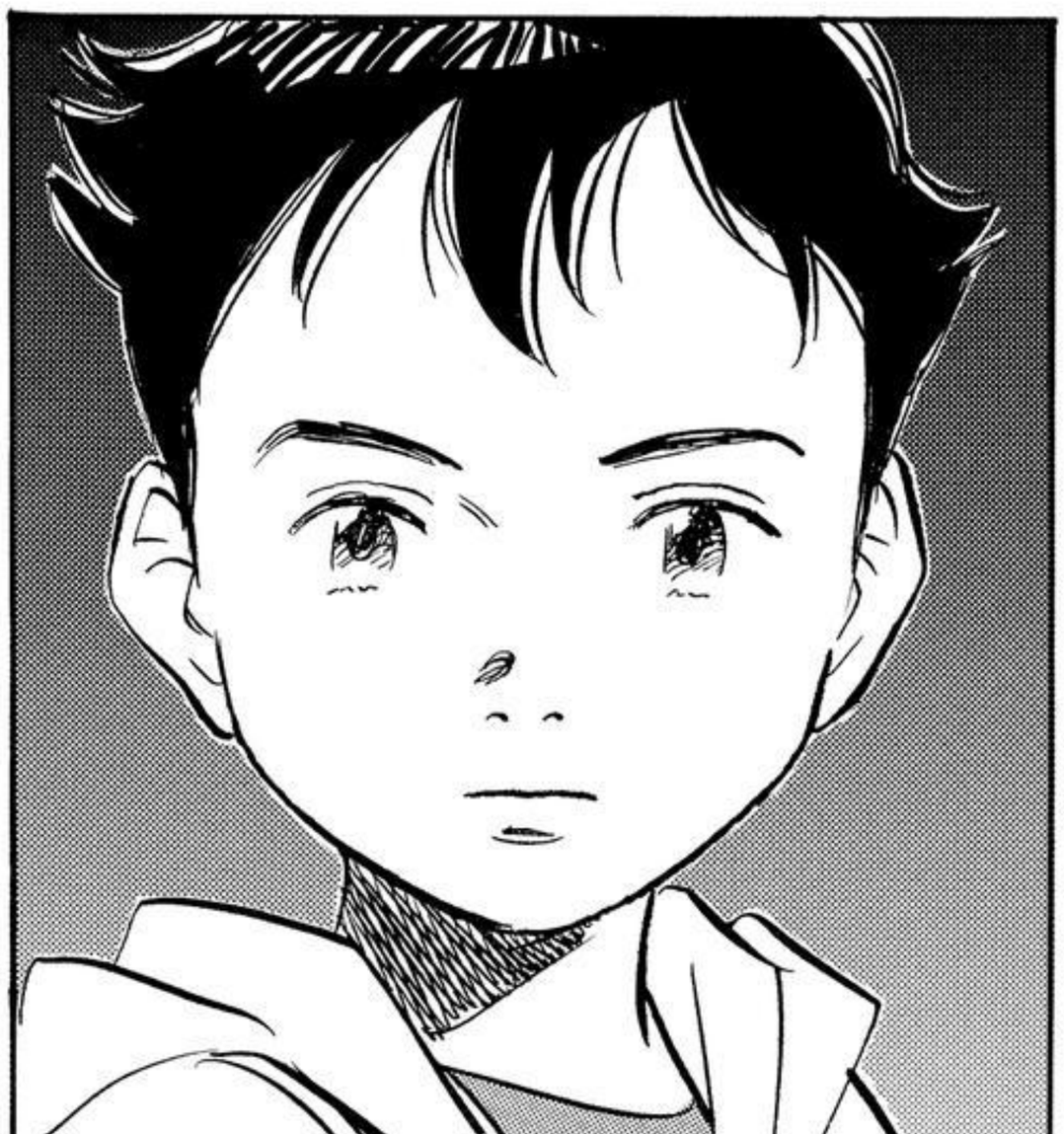

AH...

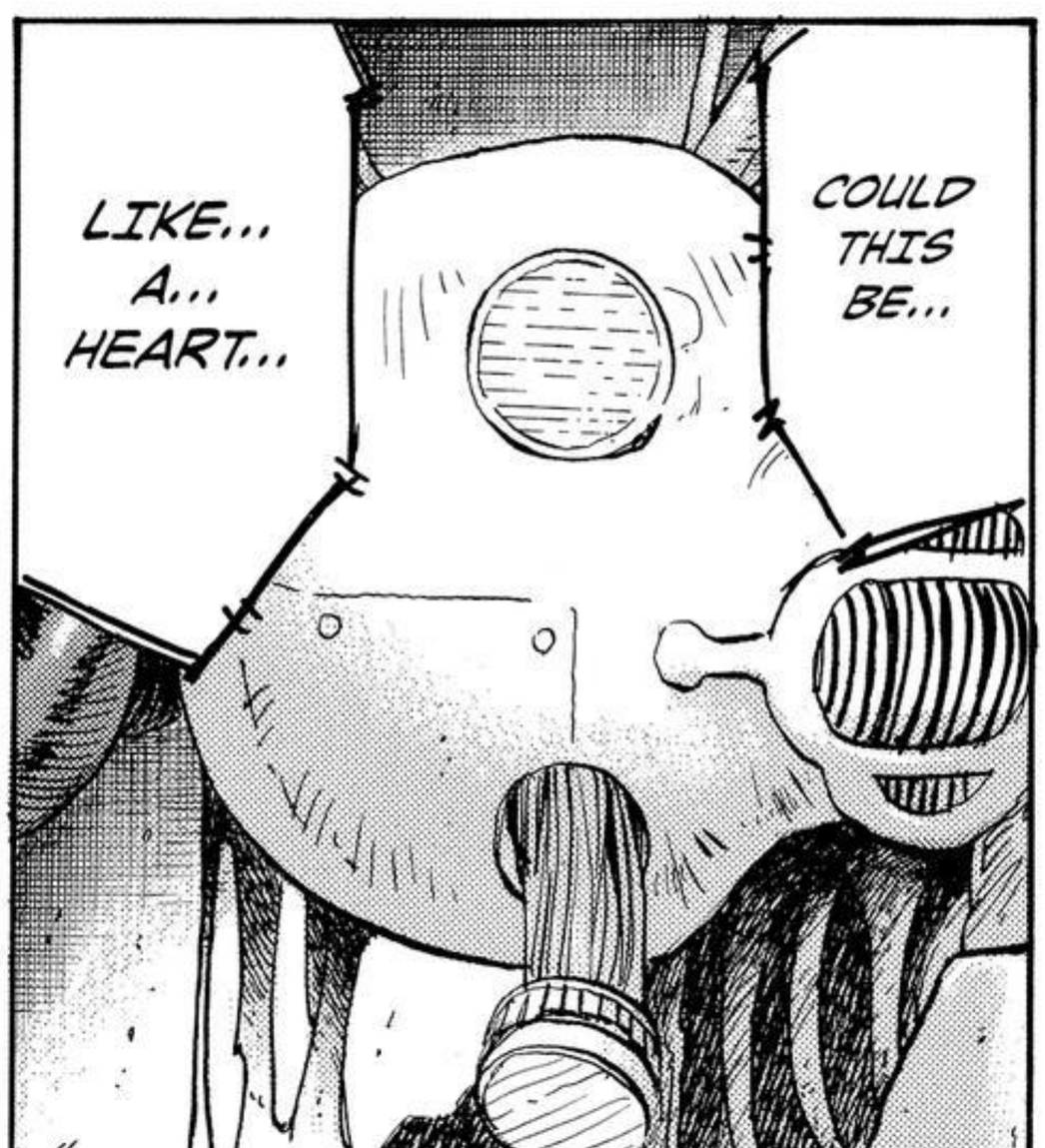


YOU'RE WARM...

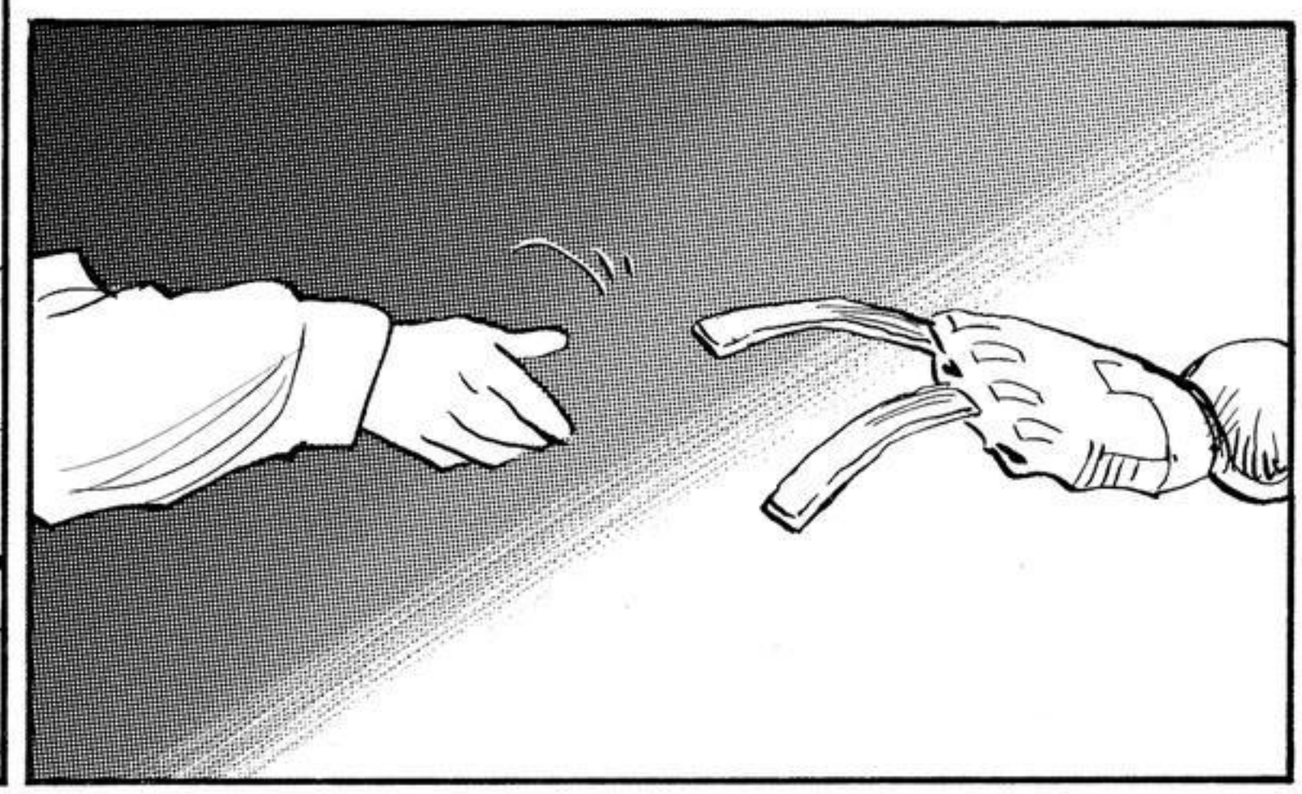


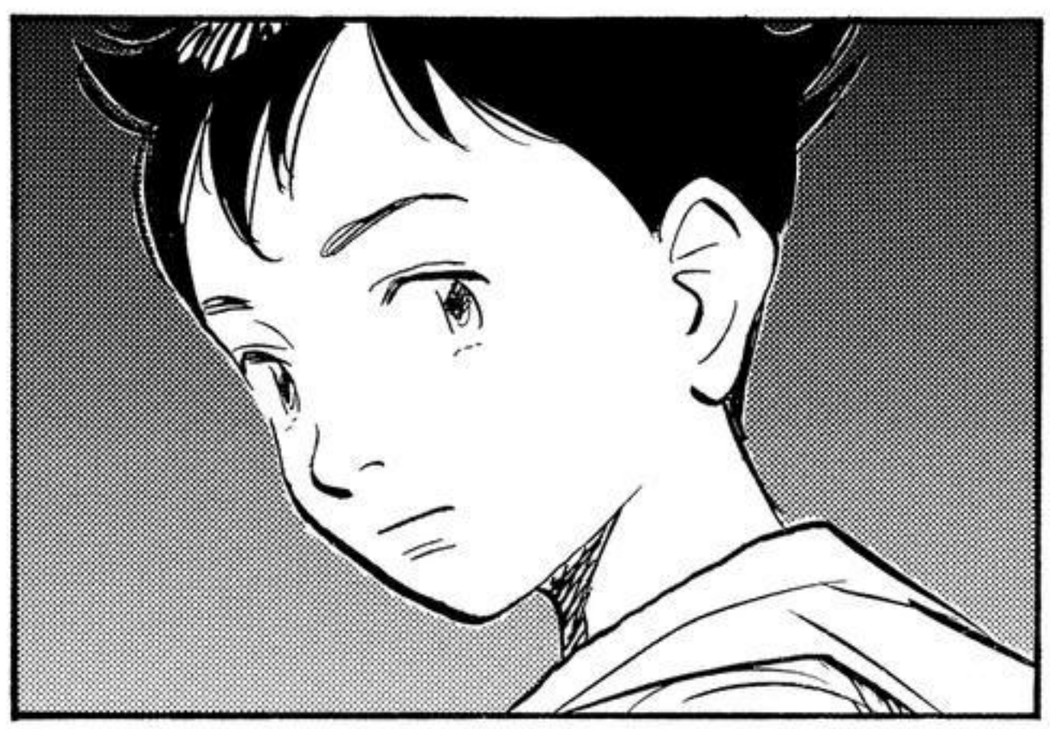


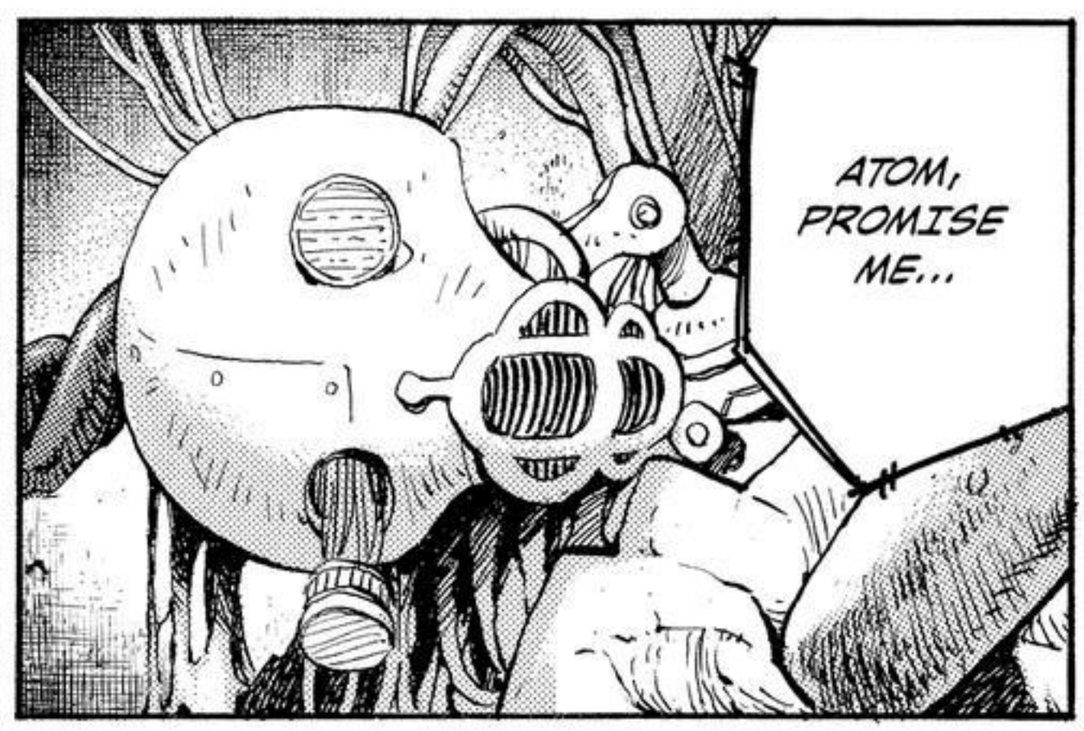


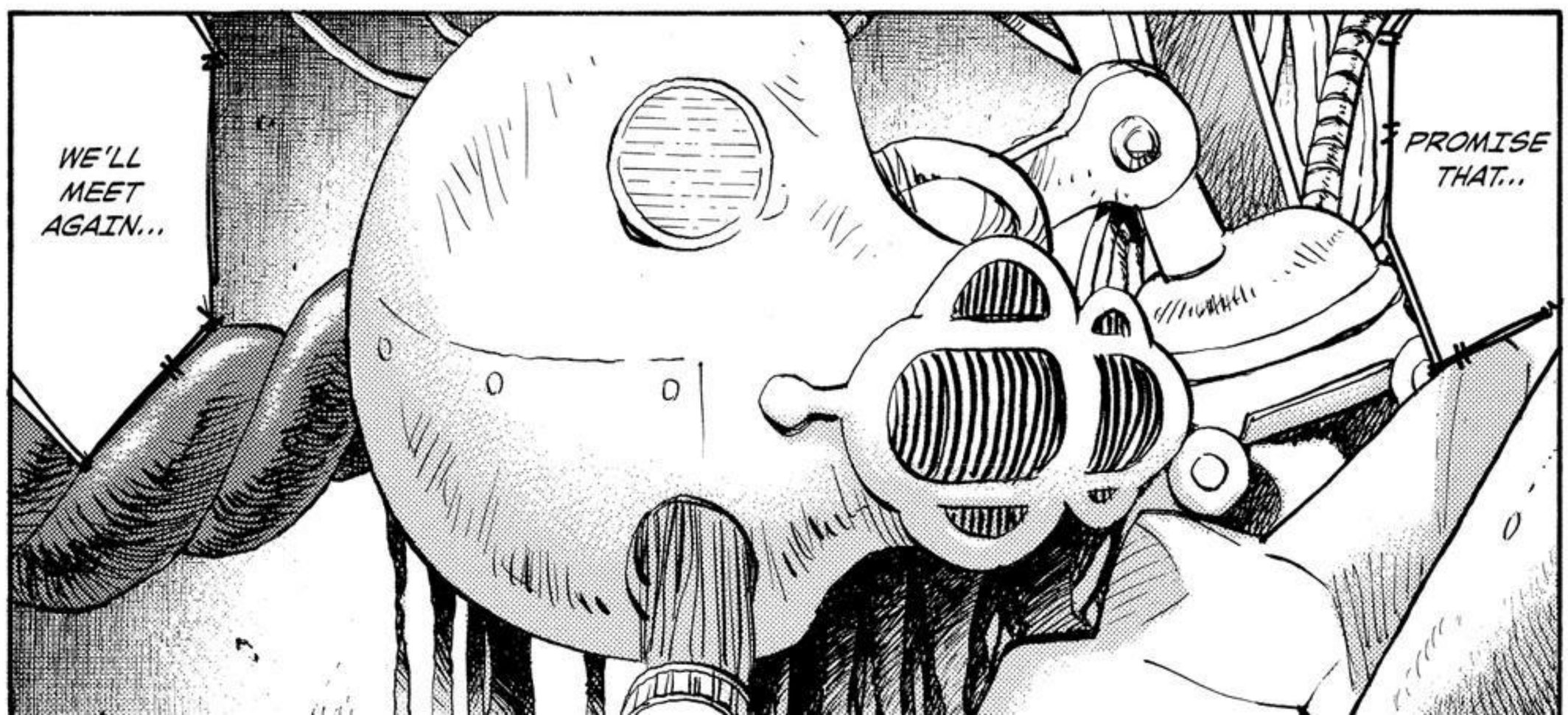


OKAY, I'M COUNTING ON YOU...



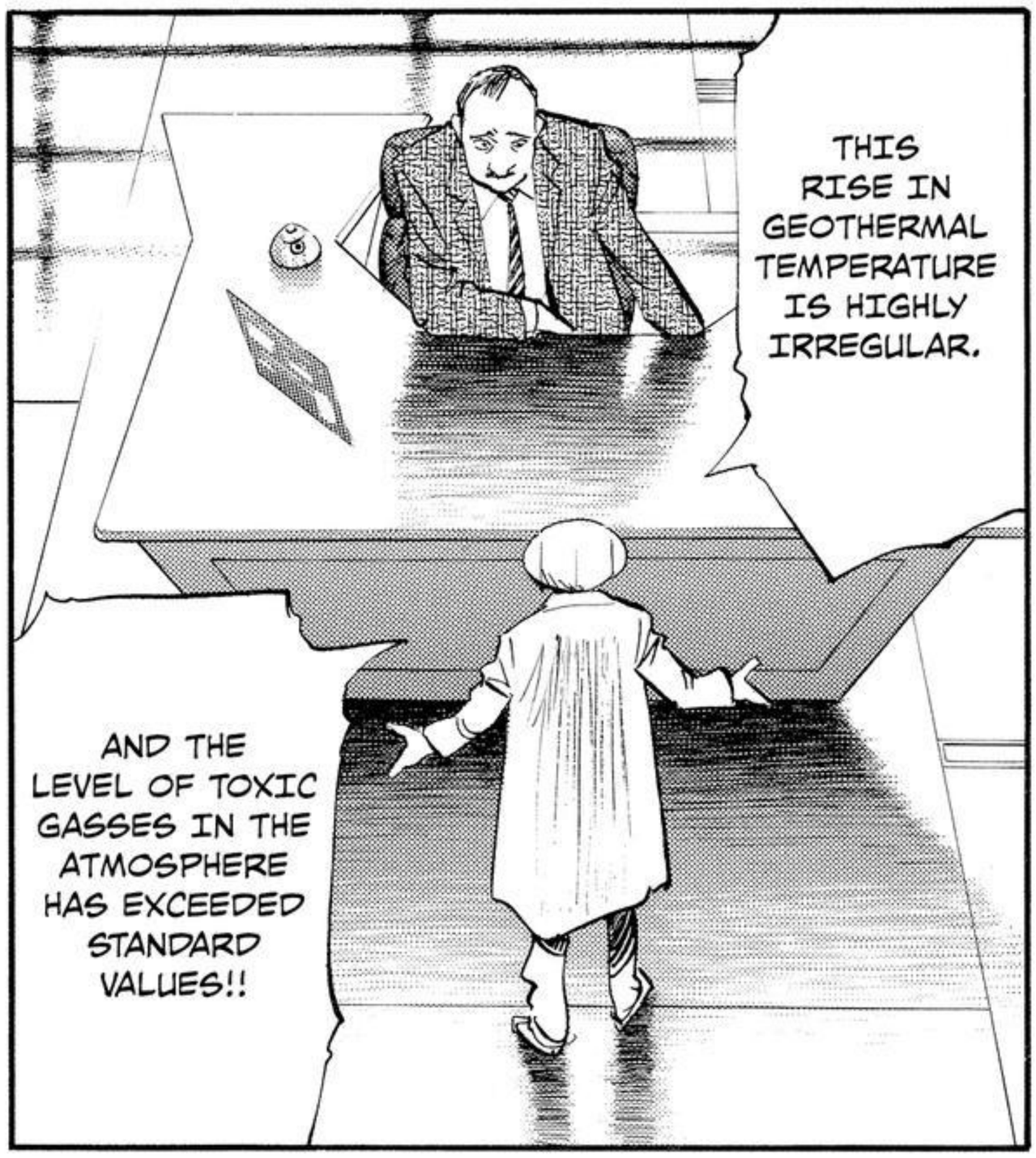


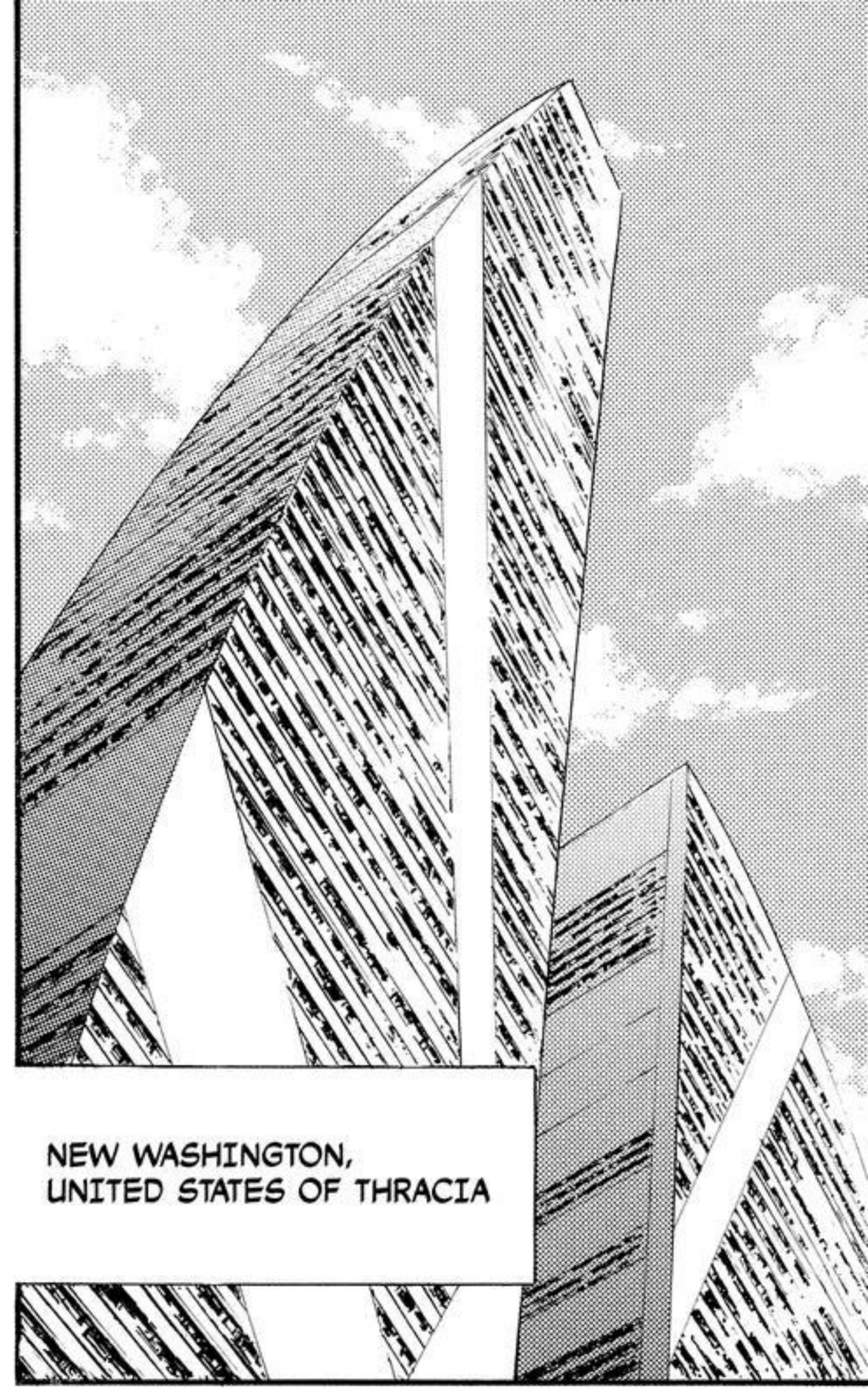

ATOM, PROMISE ME...

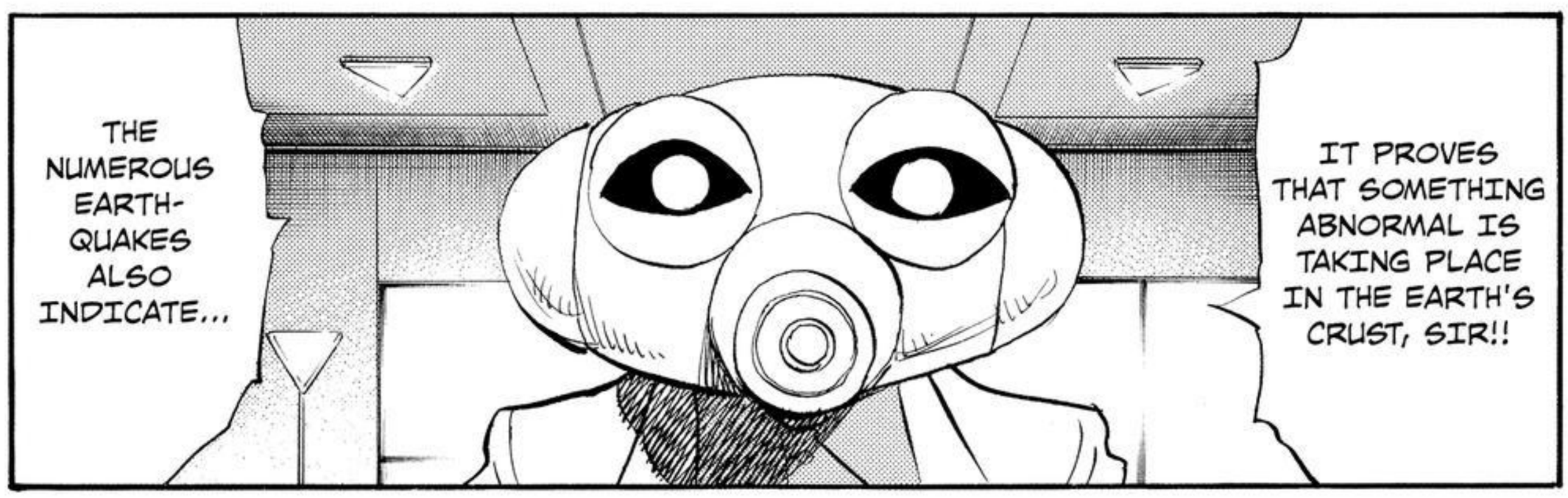

WE'LL MEET AGAIN...
PROMISE THAT...

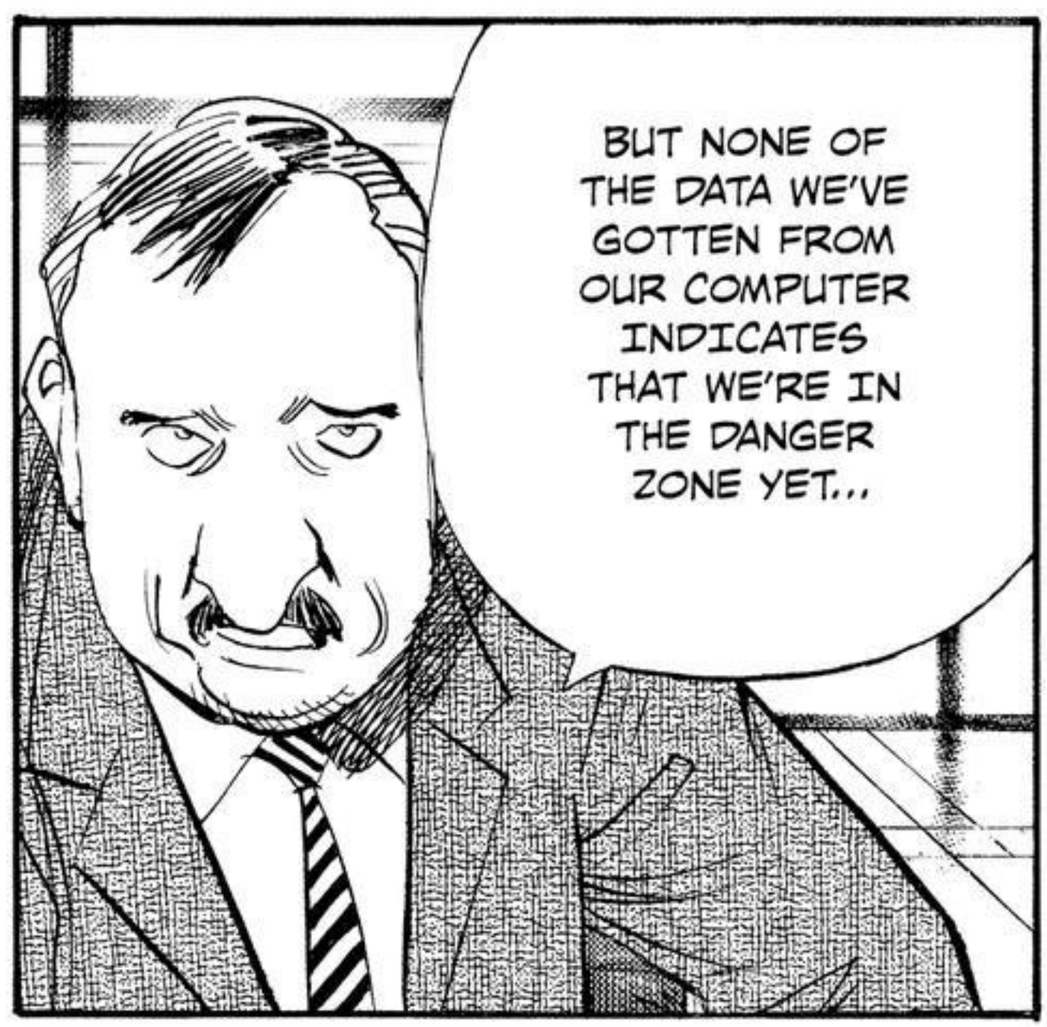
Act 59

VARIOUS REUNIONS

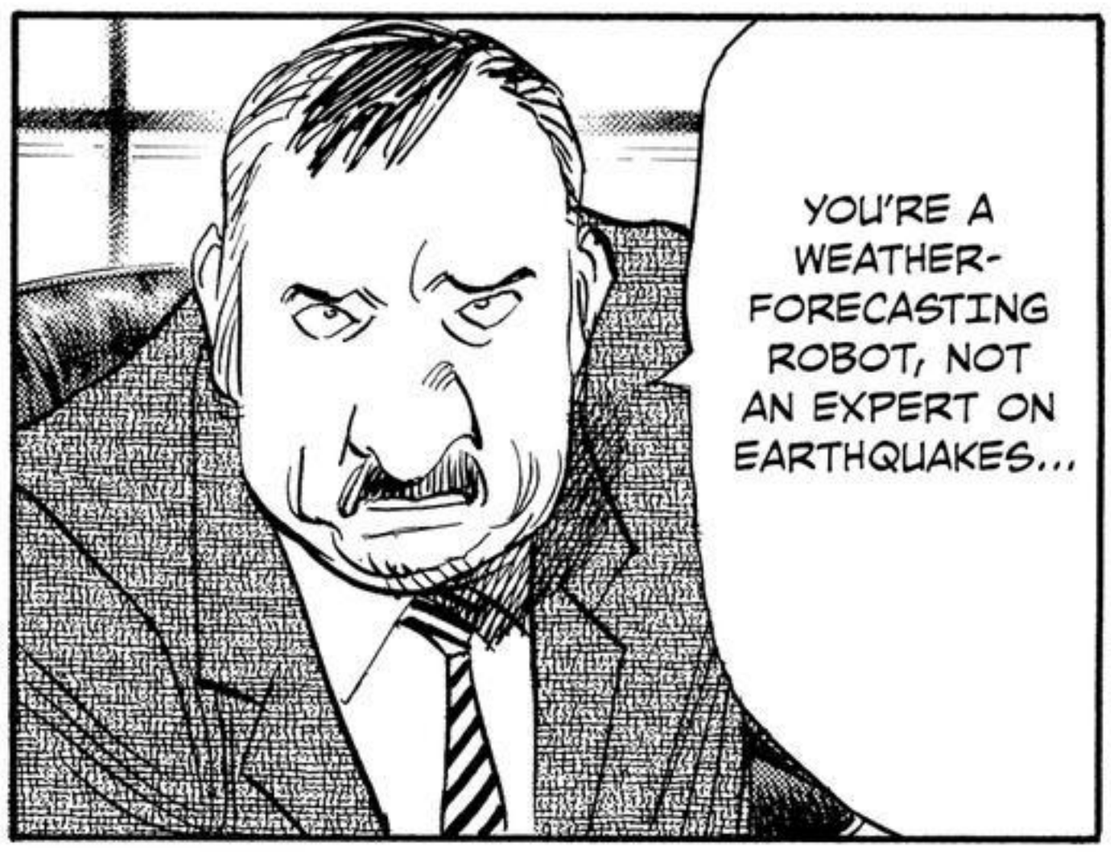

THIS RISE IN GEOTHERMAL TEMPERATURE IS HIGHLY IRREGULAR.
AND THE LEVEL OF TOXIC GASSES IN THE ATMOSPHERE HAS EXCEEDED STANDARD VALUES!!

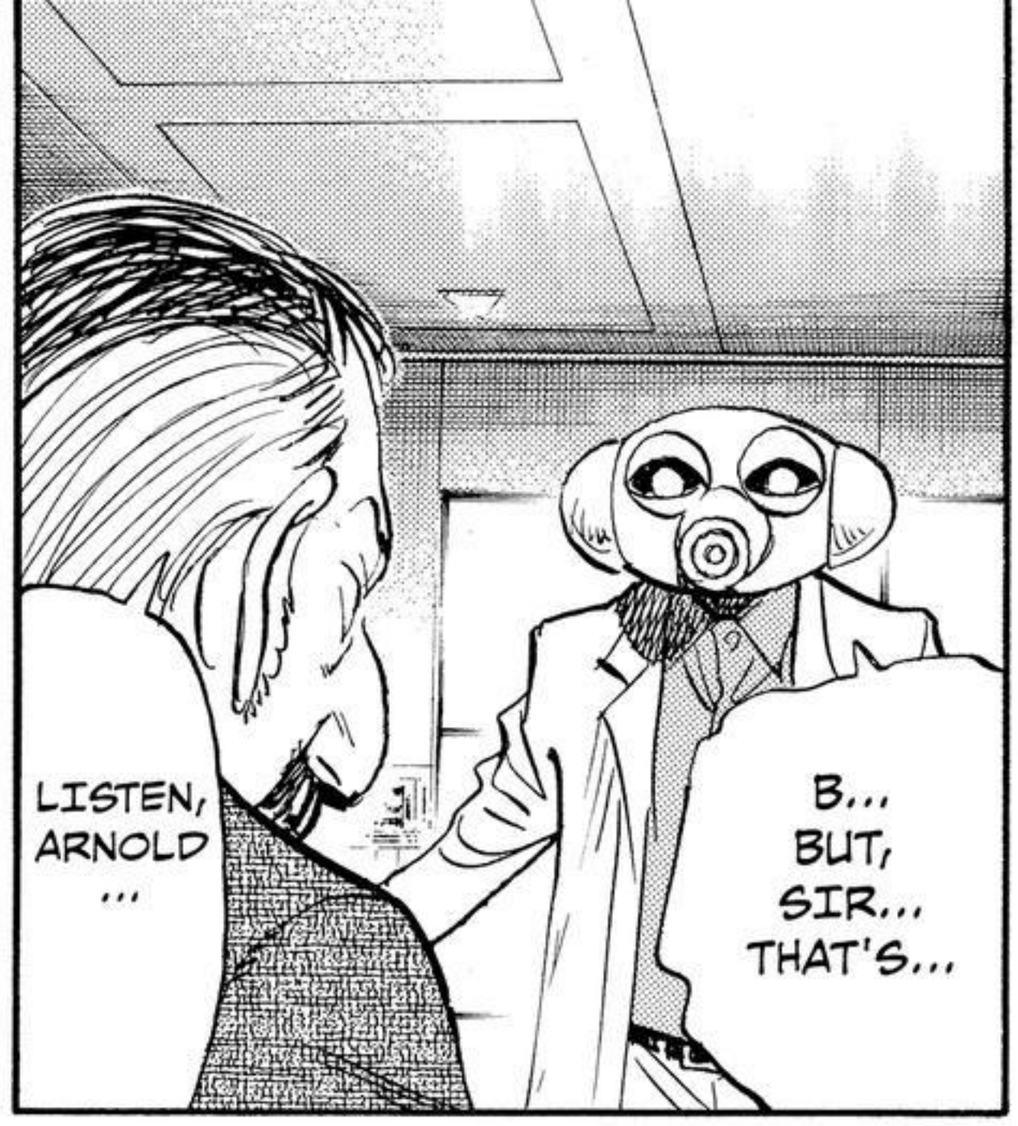

NEW WASHINGTON, UNITED STATES OF THRACIA


THE NUMEROUS EARTH-QUAKES ALSO INDICATE...
IT PROVES THAT SOMETHING ABNORMAL IS TAKING PLACE IN THE EARTH'S CRUST, SIR!!

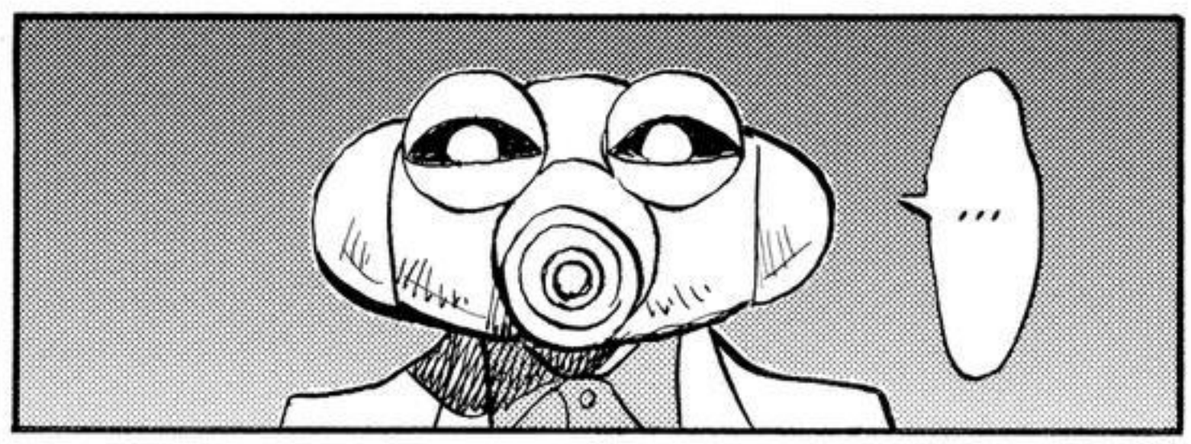

BUT NONE OF THE DATA WE'VE GOTTEN FROM OUR COMPUTER INDICATES THAT WE'RE IN THE DANGER ZONE YET...

CORRECT!! THAT'S WHY...
WELL, I HAVE RECEIVED A REPORT THAT EARTHQUAKE FREQUENCIES ARE ABOVE NORMAL...


YOU'RE A WEATHER-FORECASTING ROBOT, NOT AN EXPERT ON EARTHQUAKES...

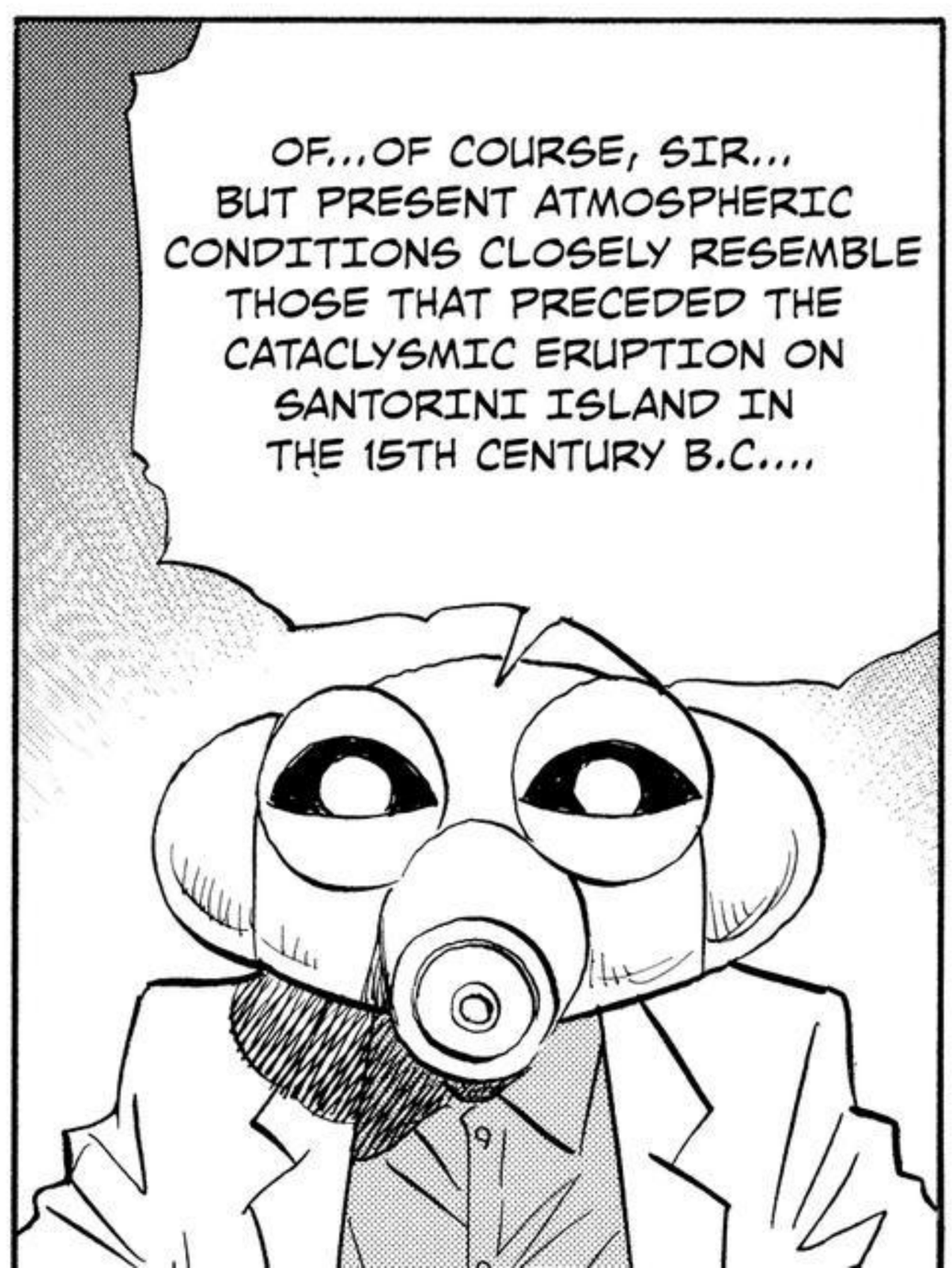

LISTEN, ARNOLD ...
B... BUT, SIR... THAT'S...

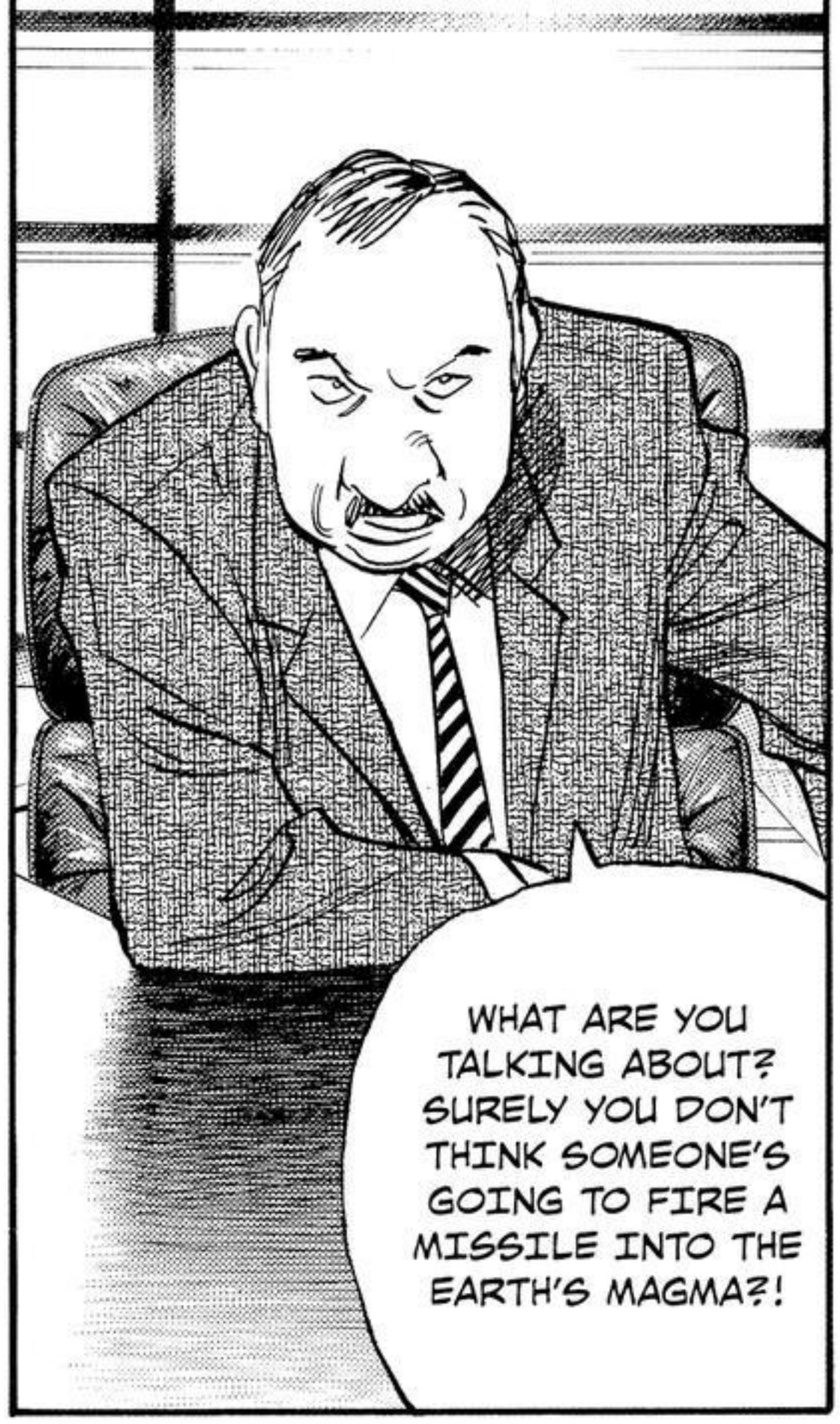
BETTER WATCH WHAT YOU SAY, ARNOLD, OR YOU'LL CREATE A PANIC AMONG OUR VIEWERS!


...

...THAT A CRACK IN THE WALL OF THIS BUILDING'S A SIGN OF AN IMPENDING DISASTER?!
WHAT THE HELL DO YOU MEAN, TELLING PEOPLE ON THE WEATHER SEGMENT ...

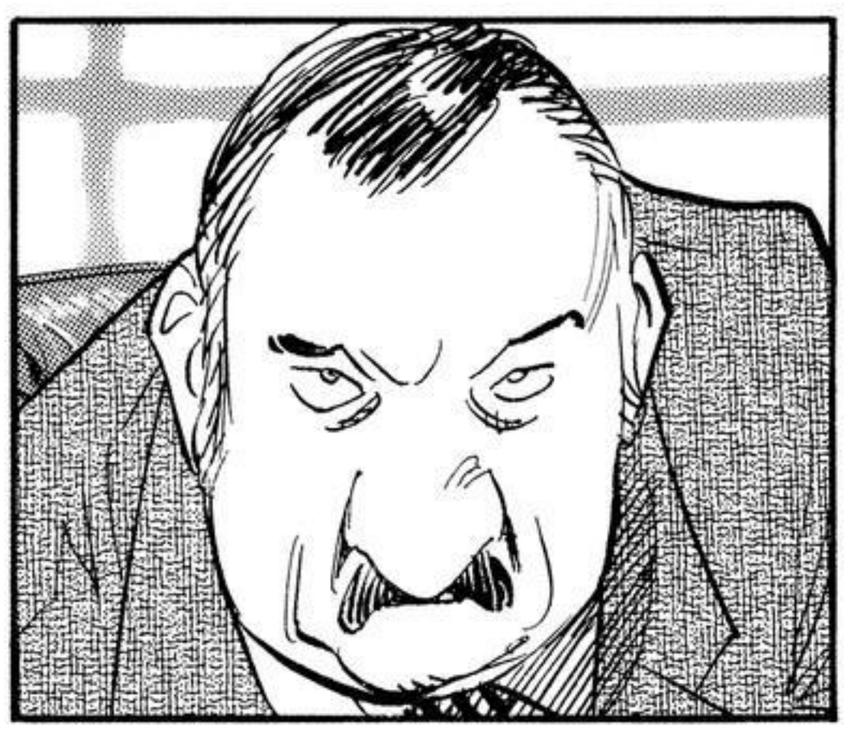
I'M GETTING SICK OF YOUR OBSESSION WITH RAW DATA!
DON'T ACT LIKE YOU ACTUALLY WITNESSED SOMETHING PREHISTORIC, ARNOLD!

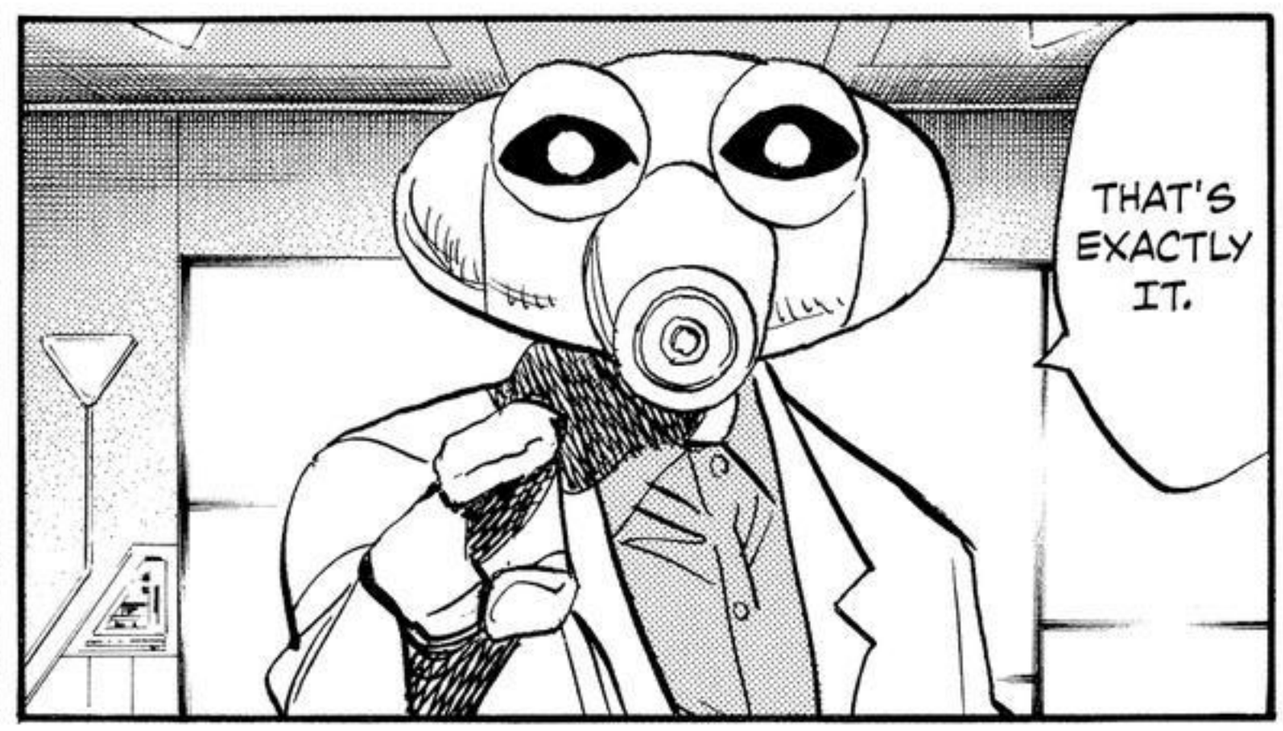

OF...OF COURSE, SIR... BUT PRESENT ATMOSPHERIC CONDITIONS CLOSELY RESEMBLE THOSE THAT PRECEDED THE CATACLYSMIC ERUPTION ON SANTORINI ISLAND IN THE 15TH CENTURY B.C....

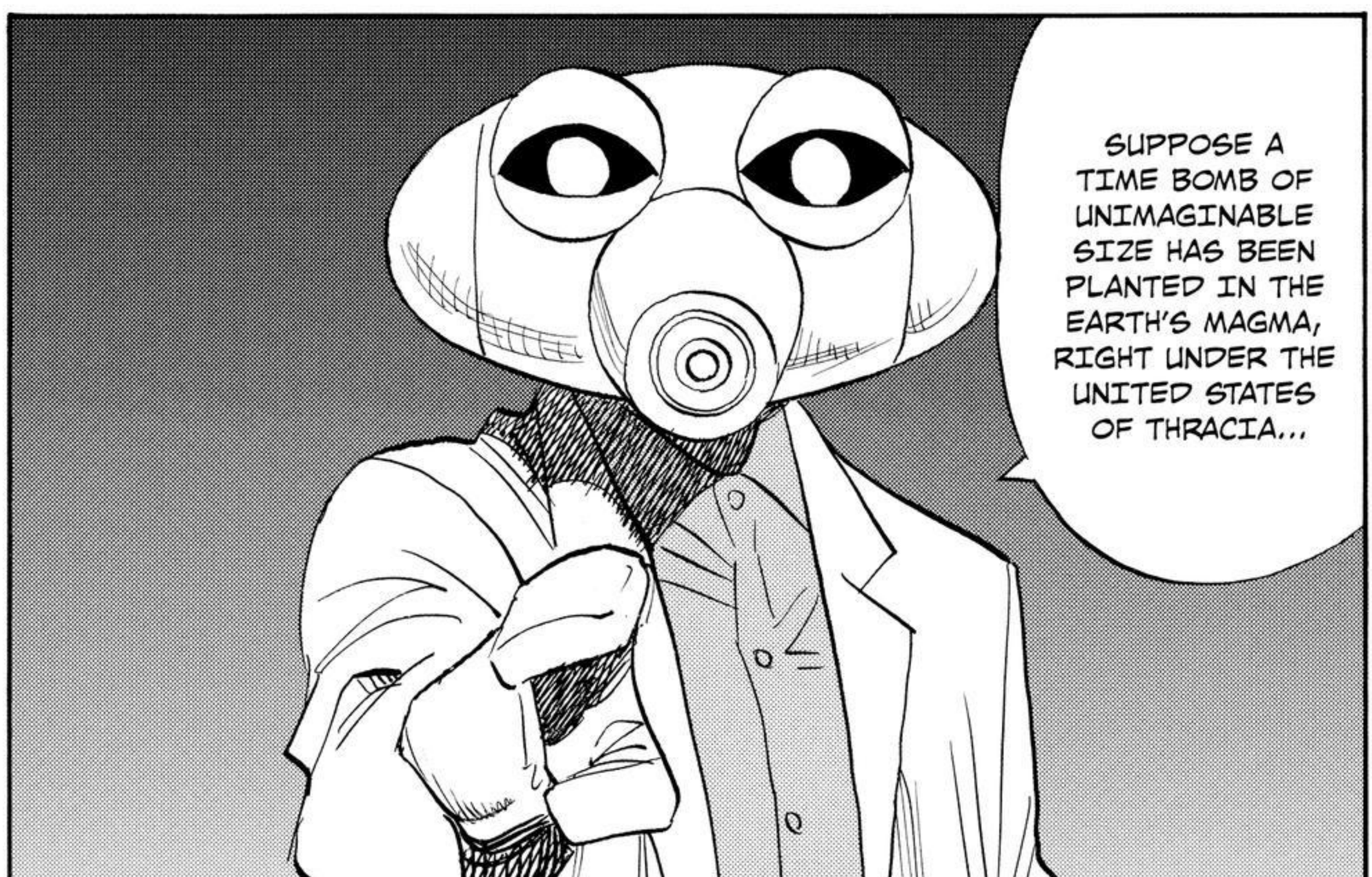

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? SURELY YOU DON'T THINK SOMEONE'S GOING TO FIRE A MISSILE INTO THE EARTH'S MAGMA?!

THERE MAY BE MAN-MADE FACTORS AT PLAY HERE, BEYOND ANY EARTHQUAKE FORECASTING COMPUTER'S ABILITY TO RECOGNIZE...
B-BUT... SIR...

MAN-MADE FACTORS ...?

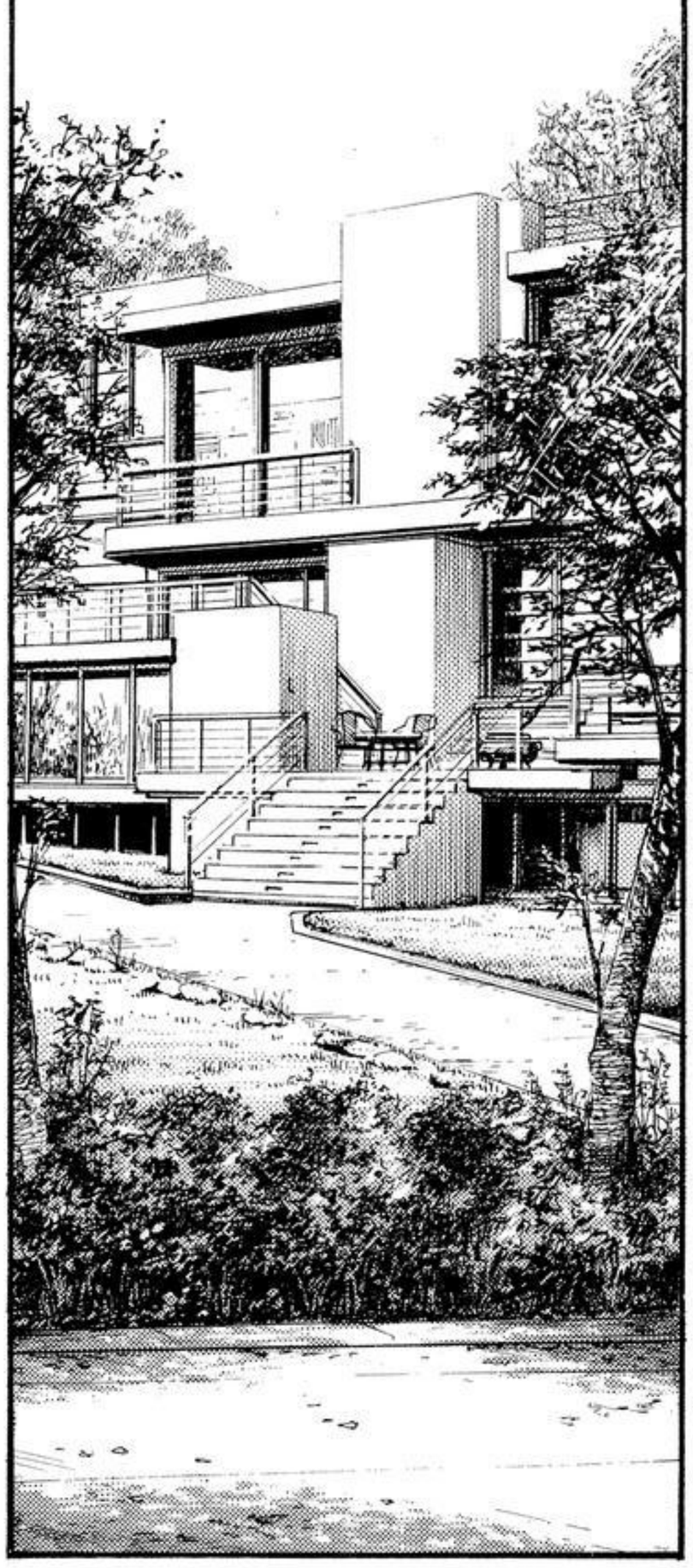


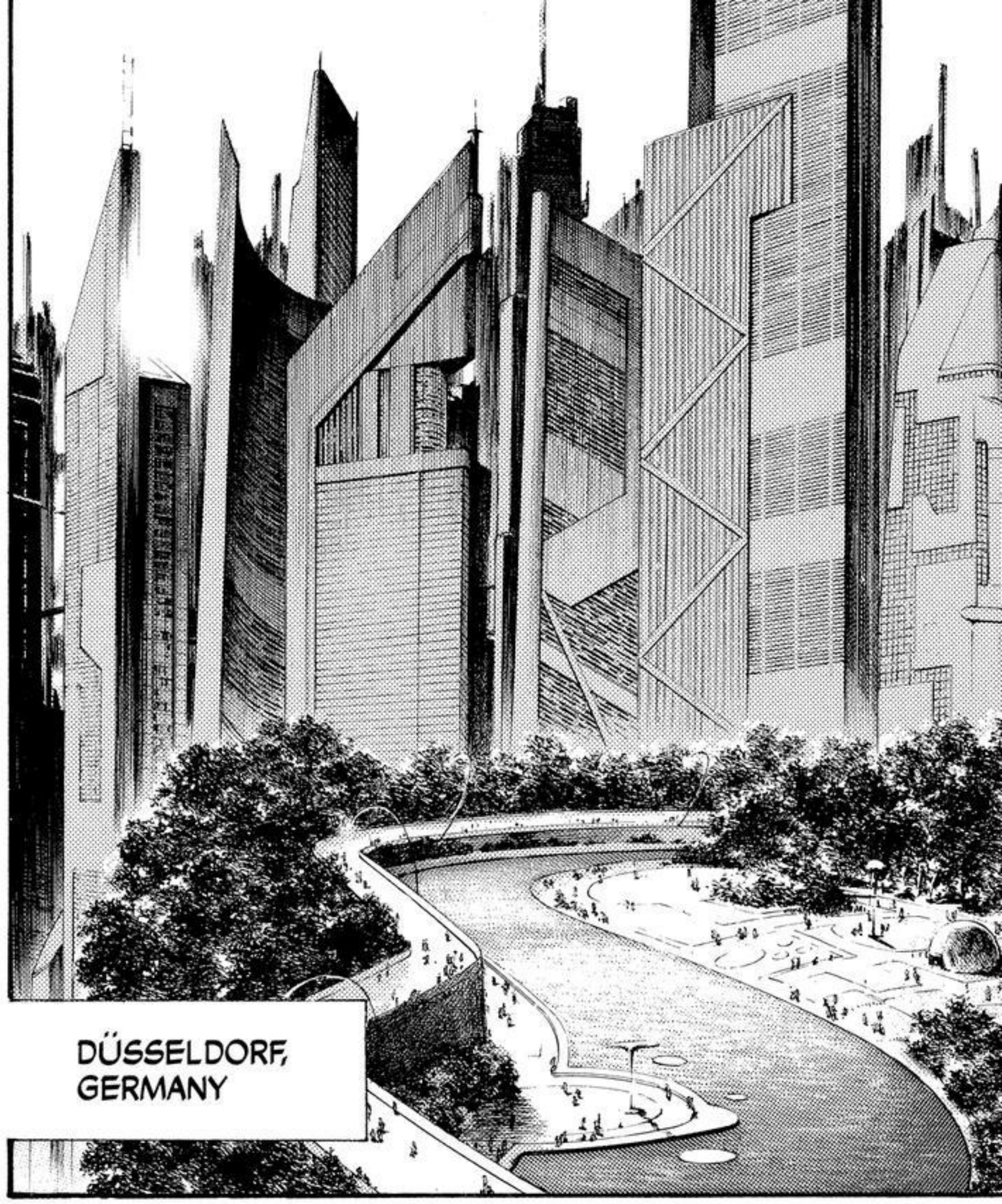

THAT'S EXACTLY IT.

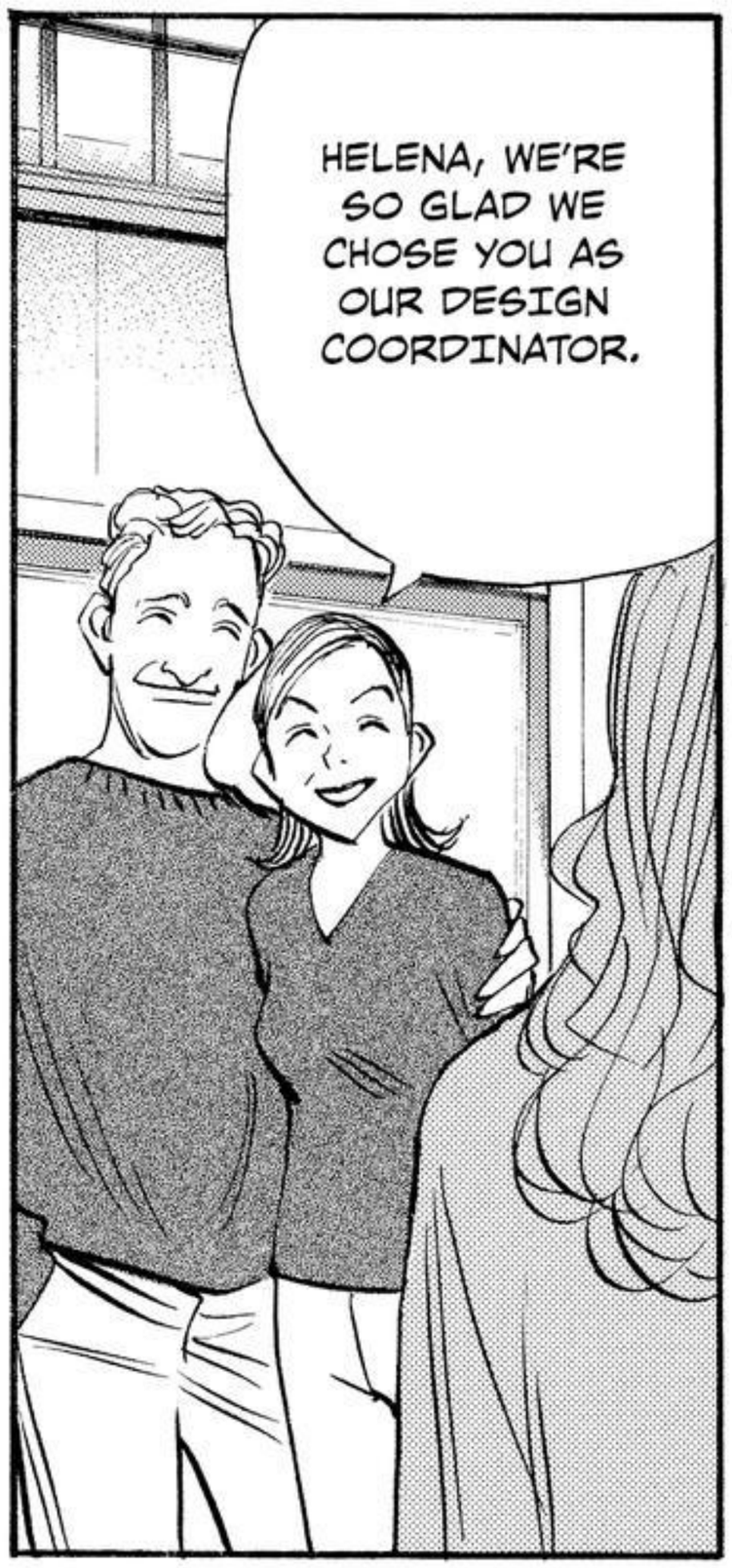

SUPPOSE A TIME BOMB OF UNIMAGINABLE SIZE HAS BEEN PLANTED IN THE EARTH'S MAGMA, RIGHT UNDER THE UNITED STATES OF THRACIA...

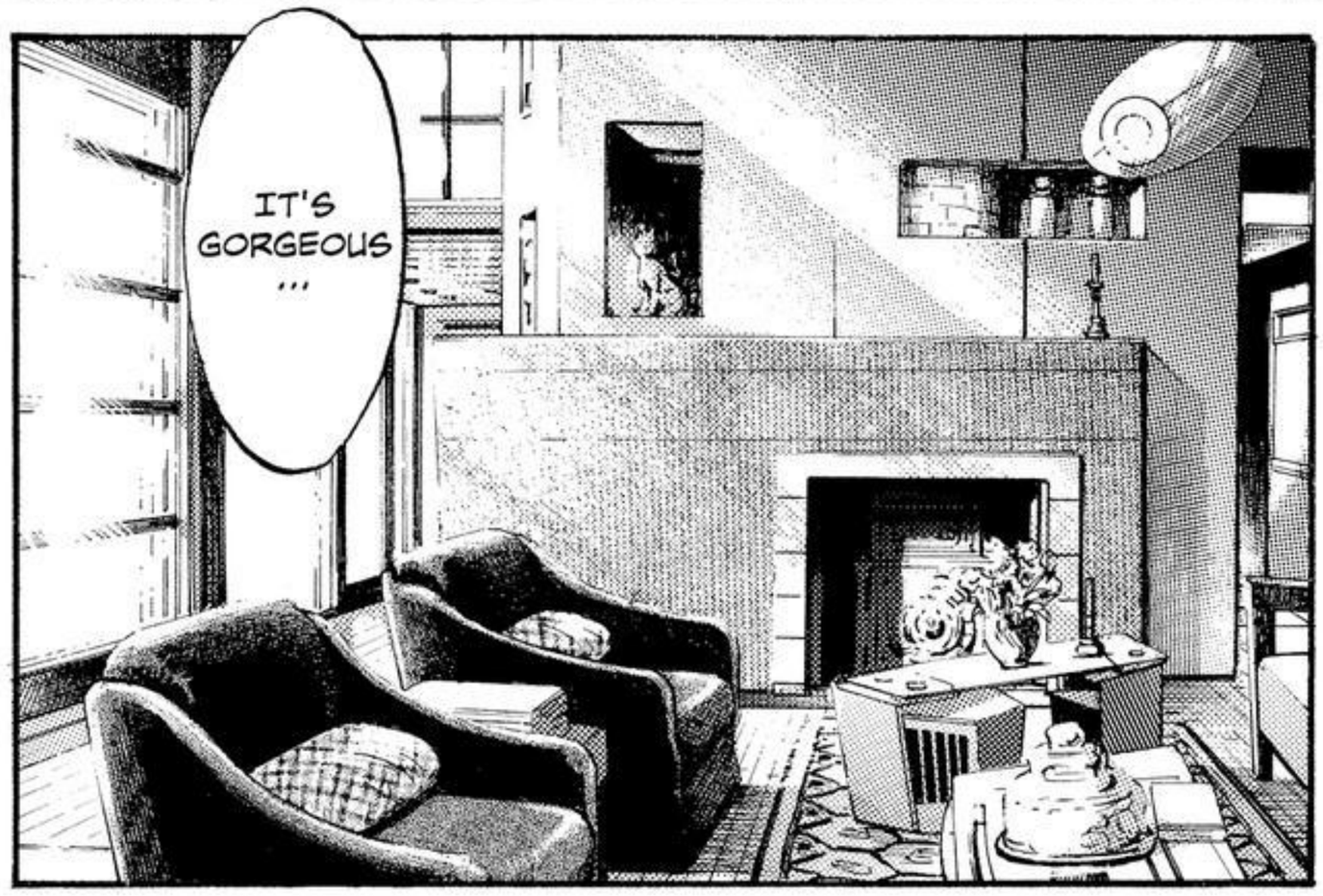
WHOOOSH

EDEN NATIONAL PARK,
UNITED STATES OF THRACIA



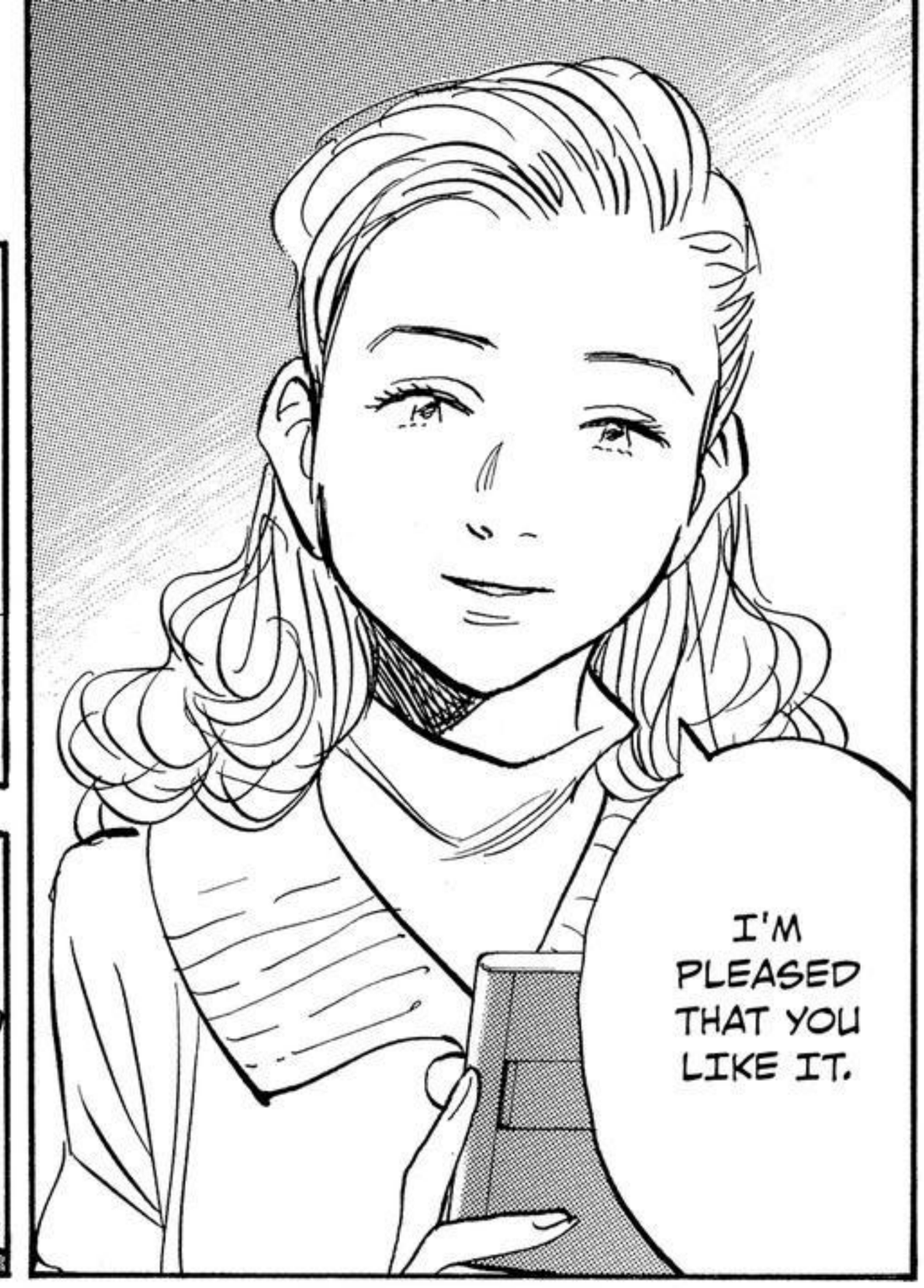

DÜSSELDORF, GERMANY

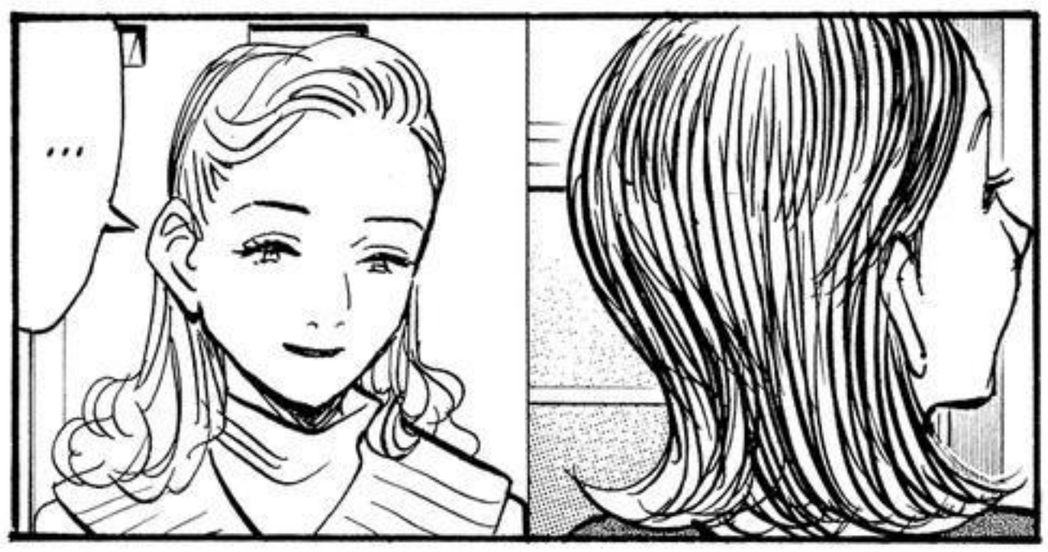

HELENA, WE'RE SO GLAD WE CHOSE YOU AS OUR DESIGN COORDINATOR.

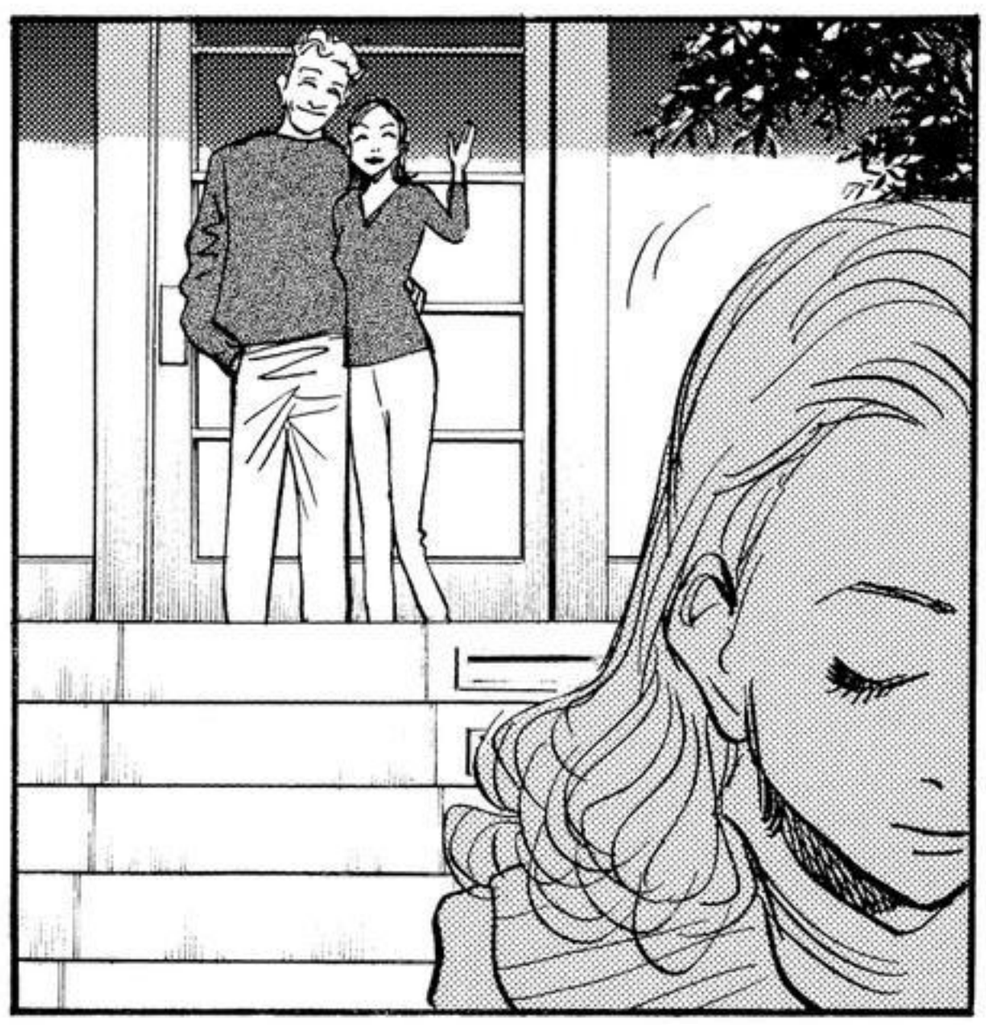

IT'S GORGEOUS ...

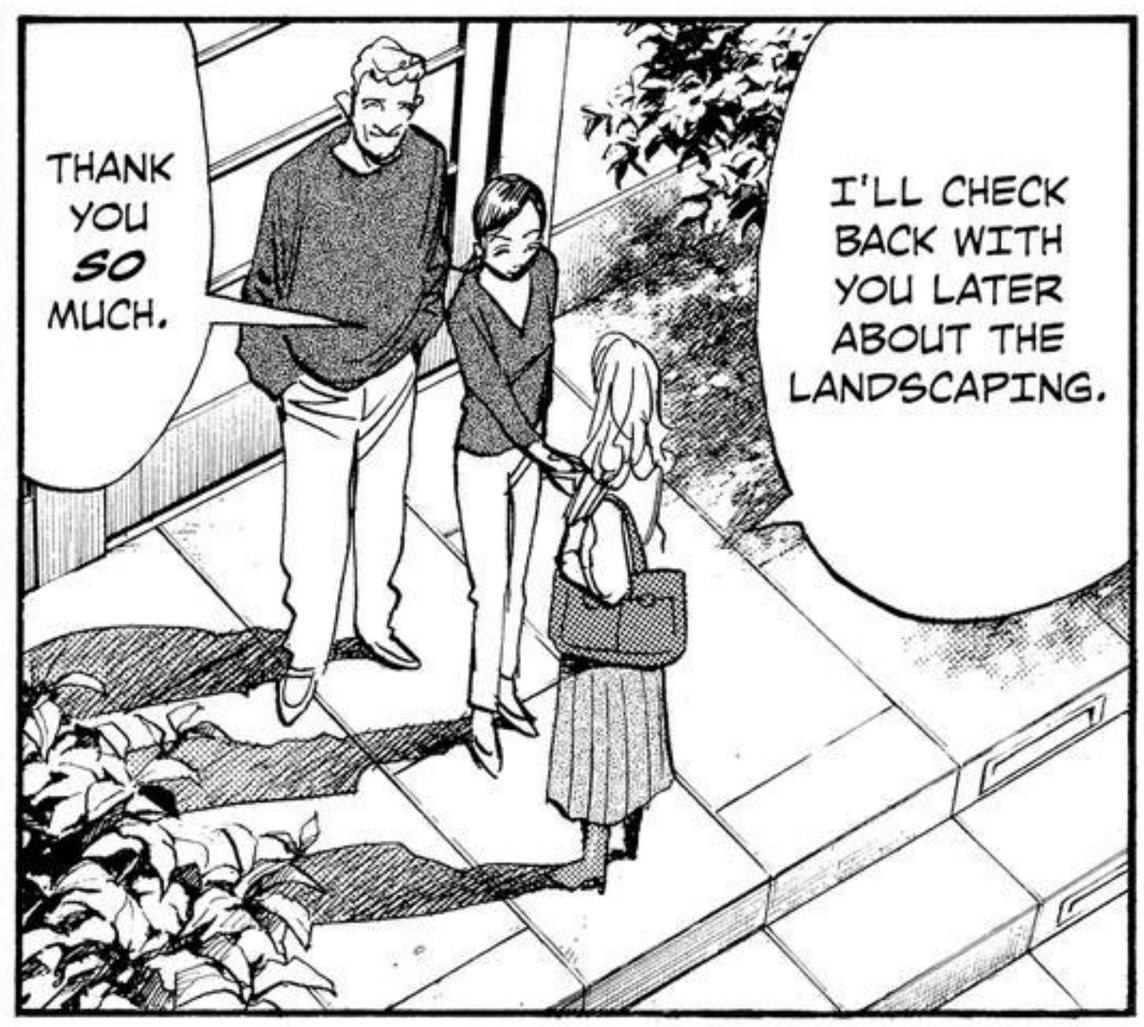
LOOKS LIKE A COMPLETELY NEW HOME...

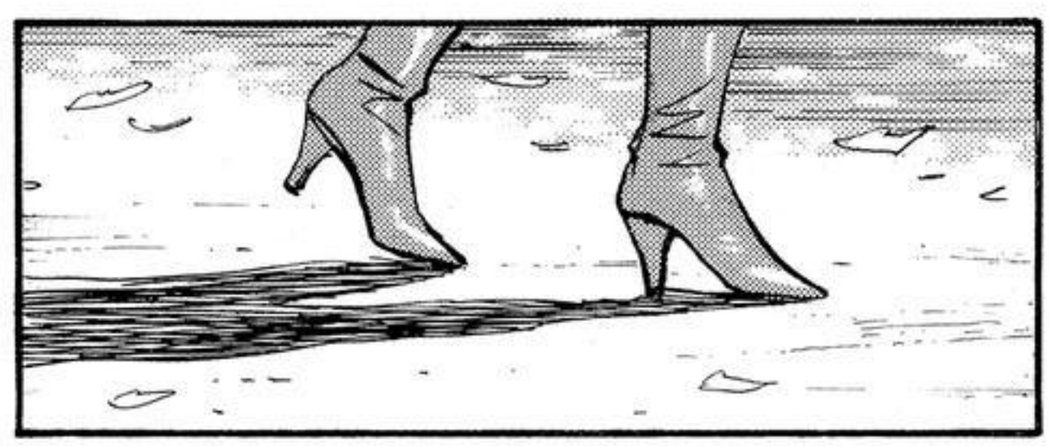
WE'VE ALWAYS DREAMED OF LIVING IN A HOME LIKE THIS, HAVEN'T WE, DEAR?
WE SURE HAVE.

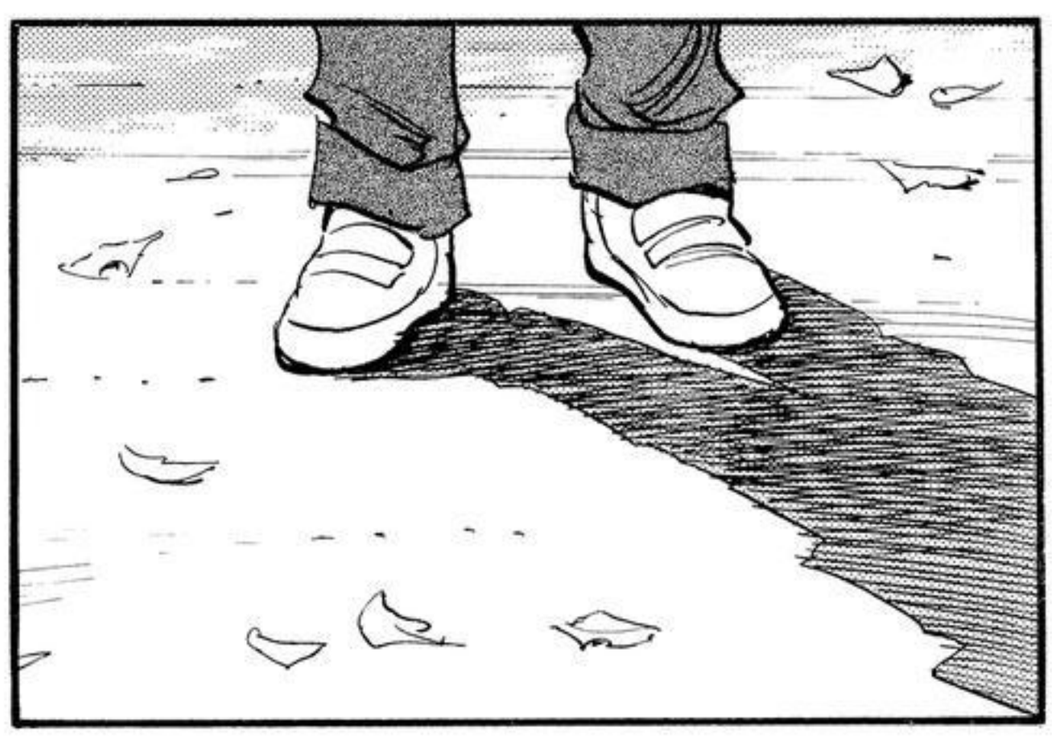

I'M PLEASED THAT YOU LIKE IT.


...

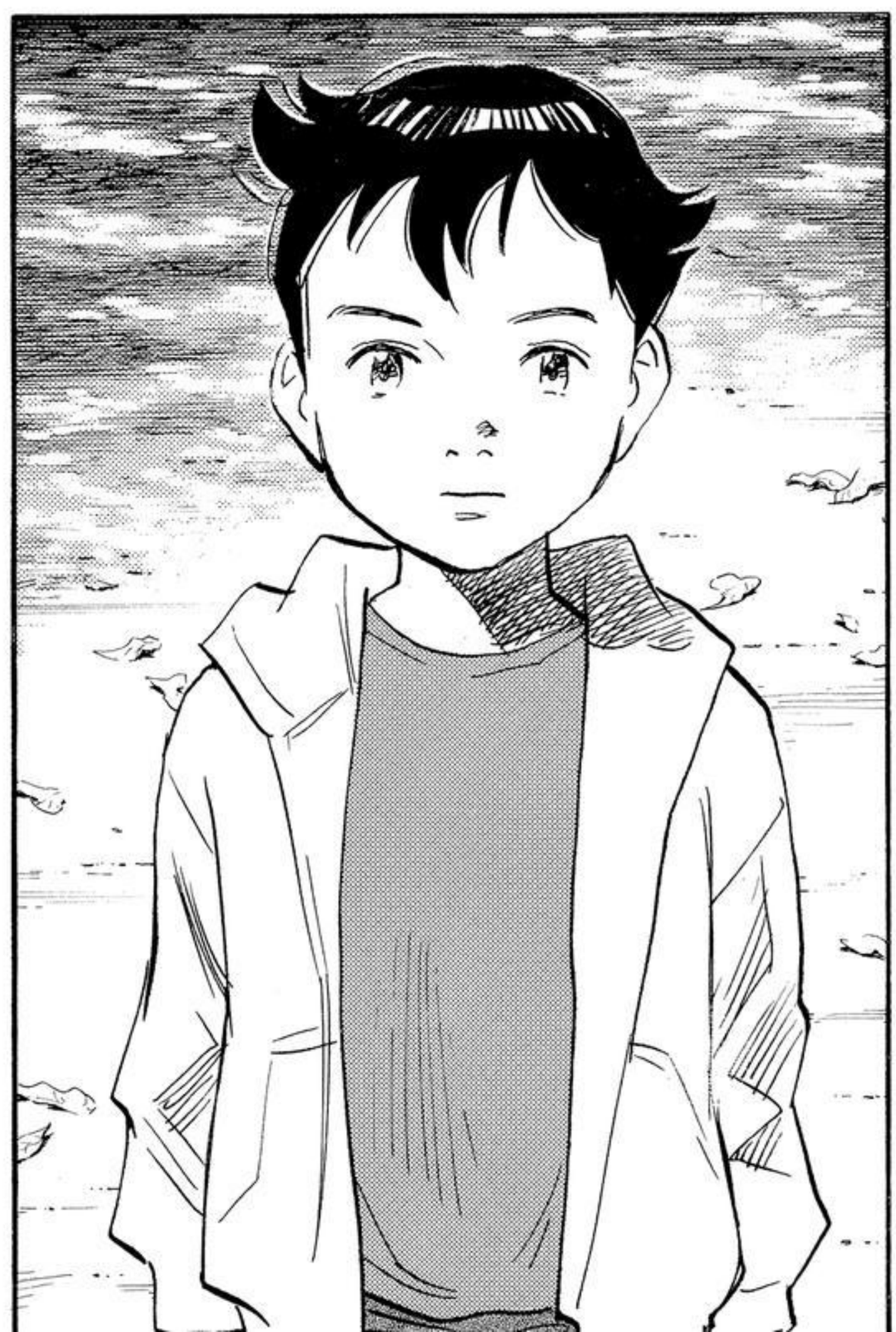


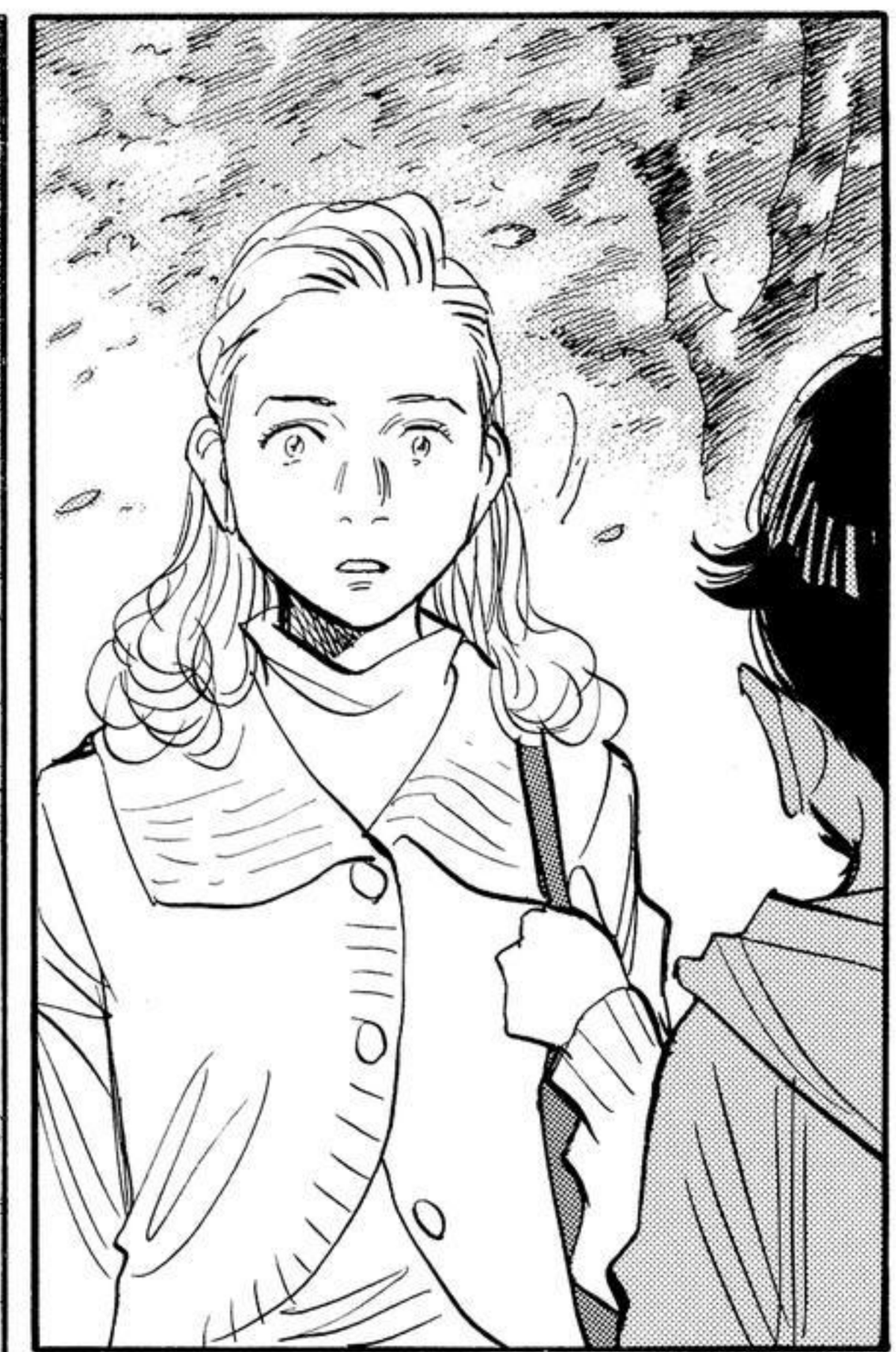

THANK YOU SO MUCH.
I'LL CHECK BACK WITH YOU LATER ABOUT THE LANDSCAPING.



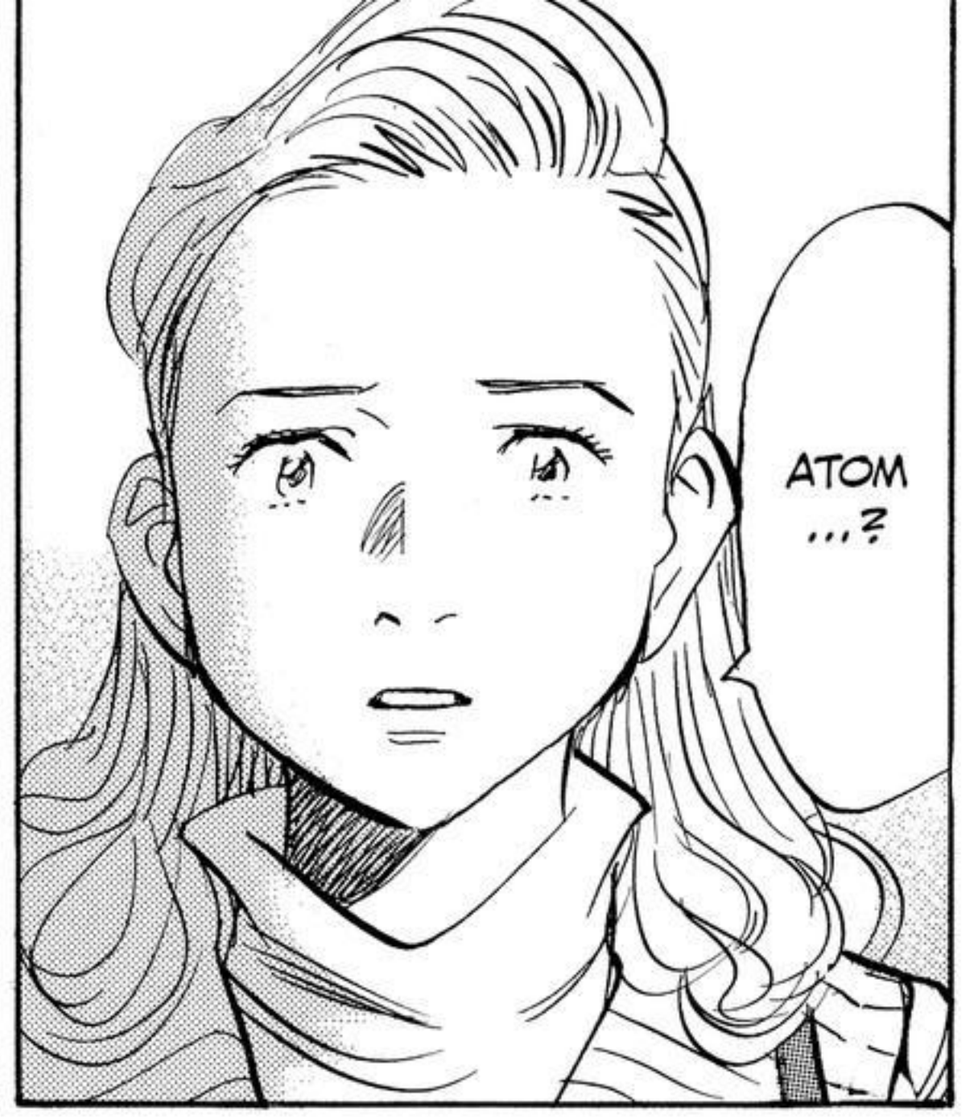


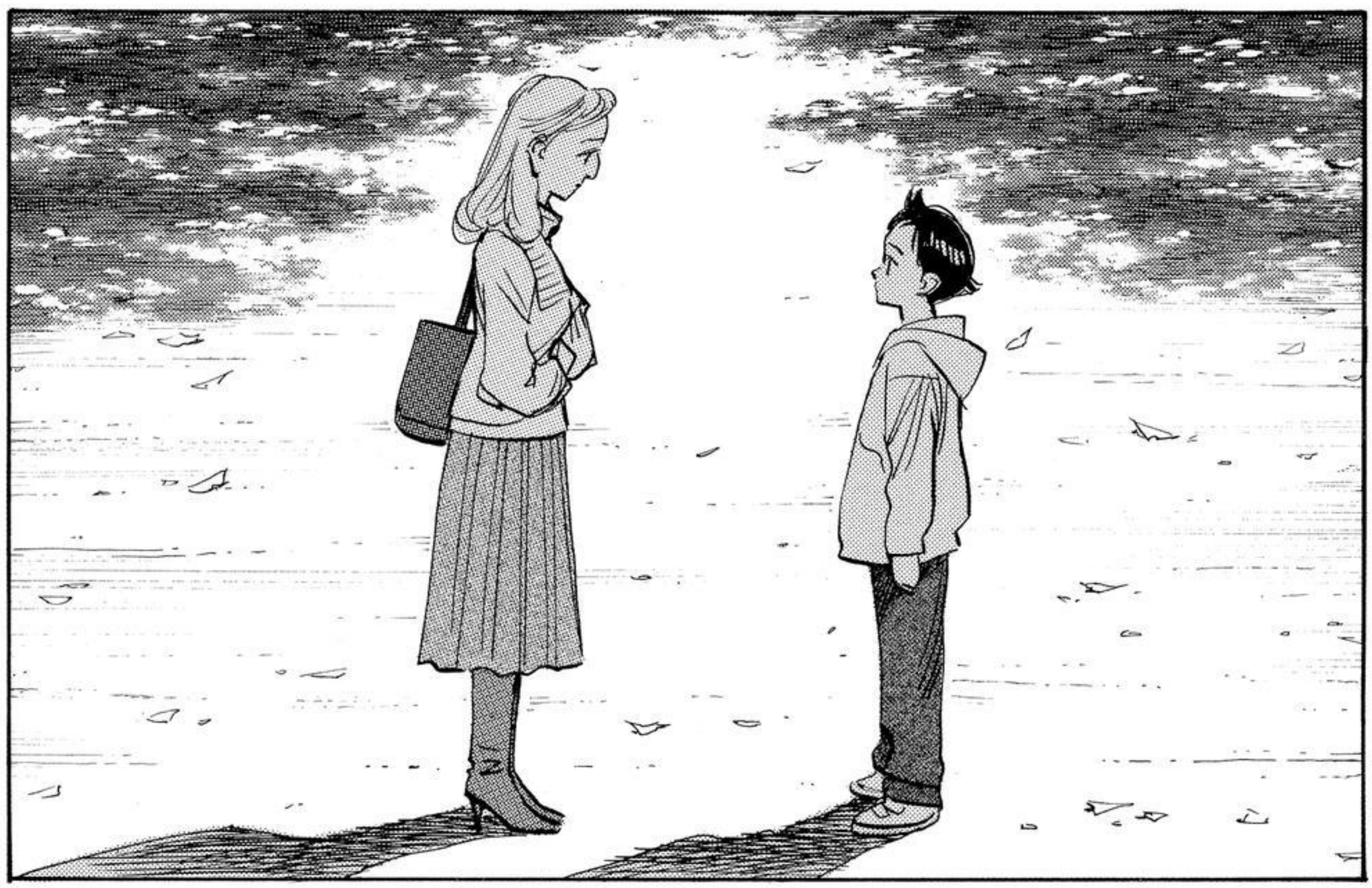
GESICHT
...





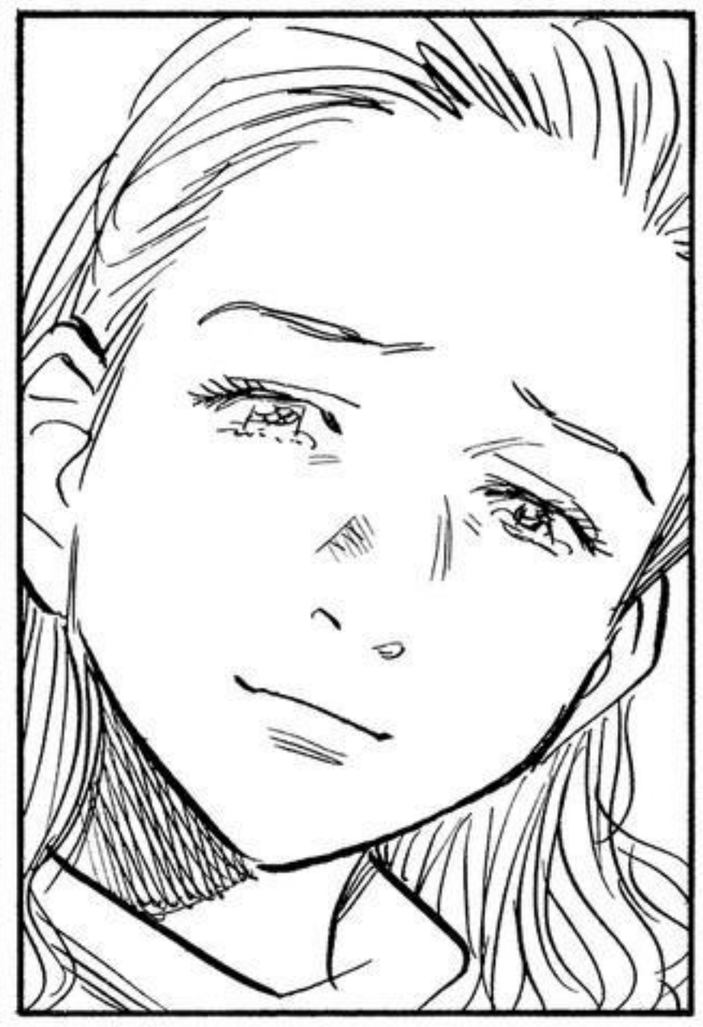
YES, MS. HELENA ...

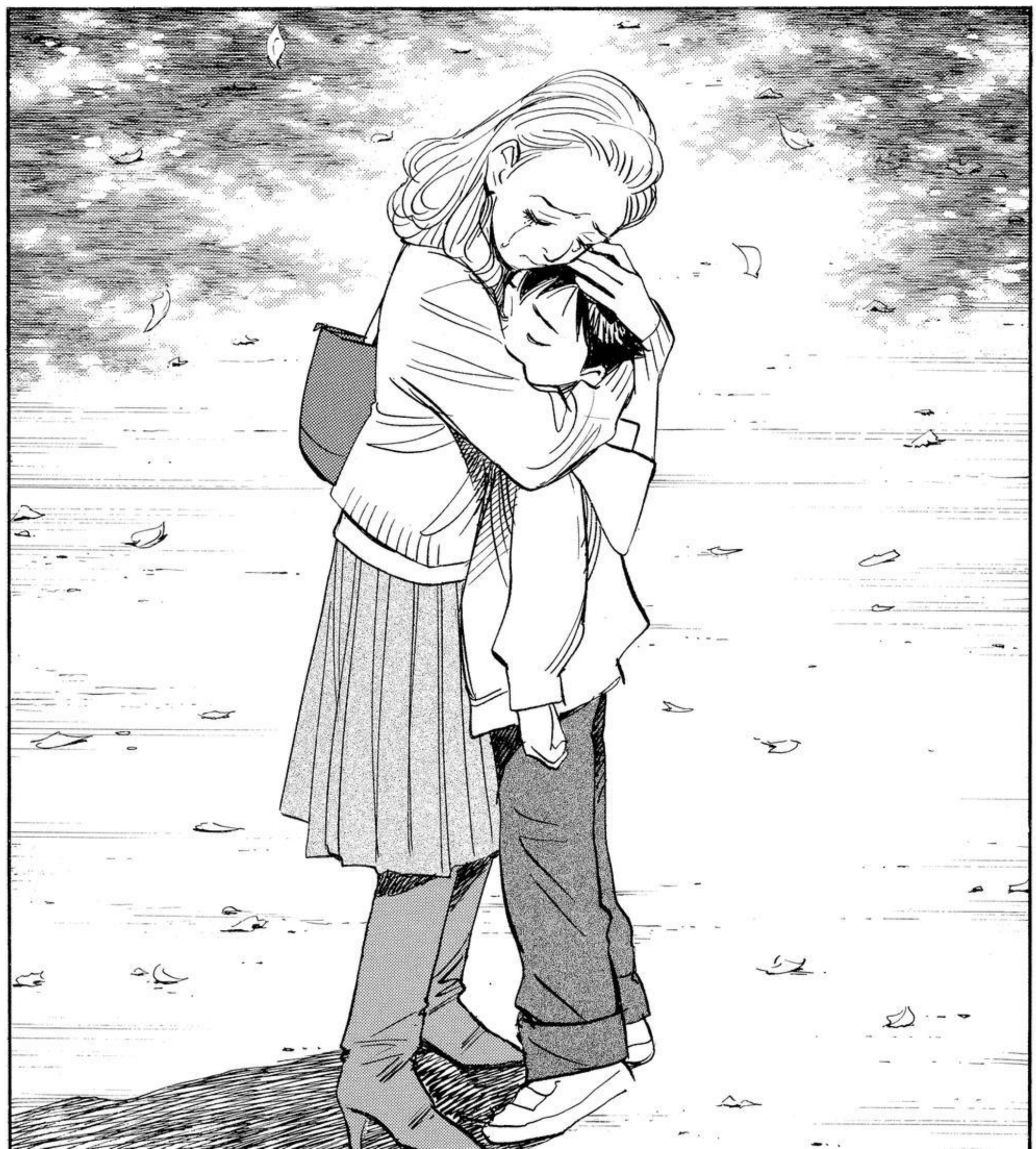

ATOM ...?



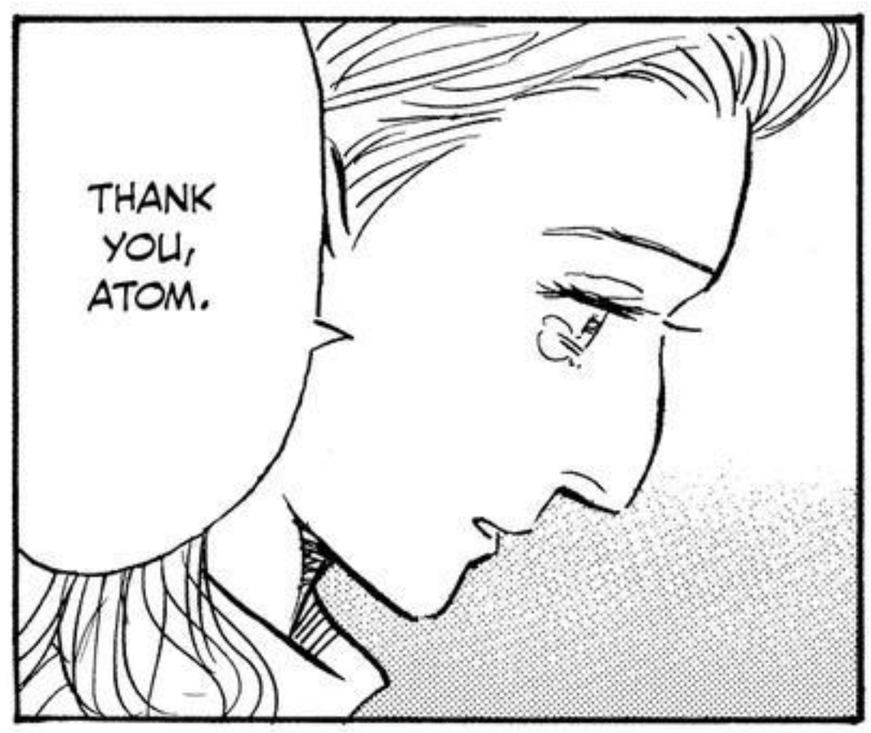
HE'S THE REASON I CAME BACK TO LIFE...
YES.

I MEAN GESICHT...
HE'S INSIDE YOU, ISN'T HE?

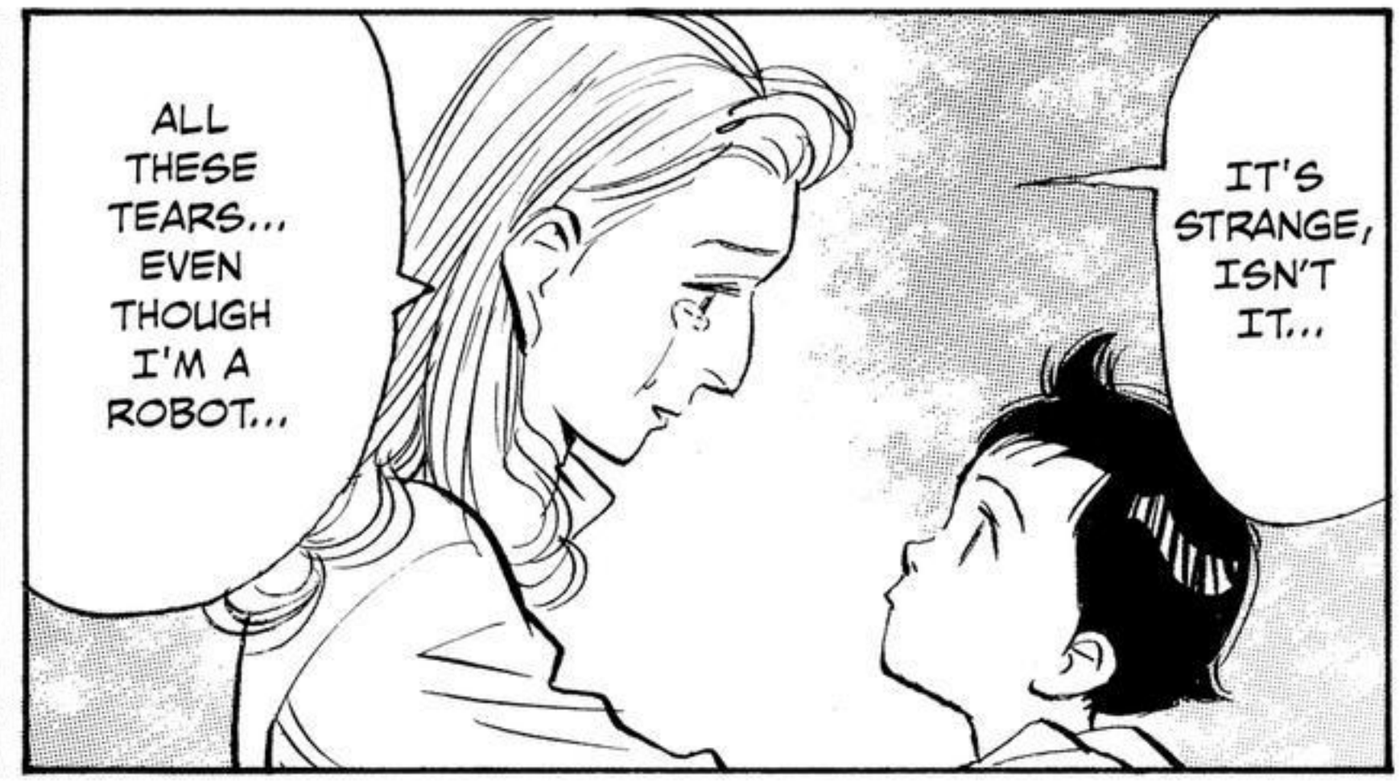




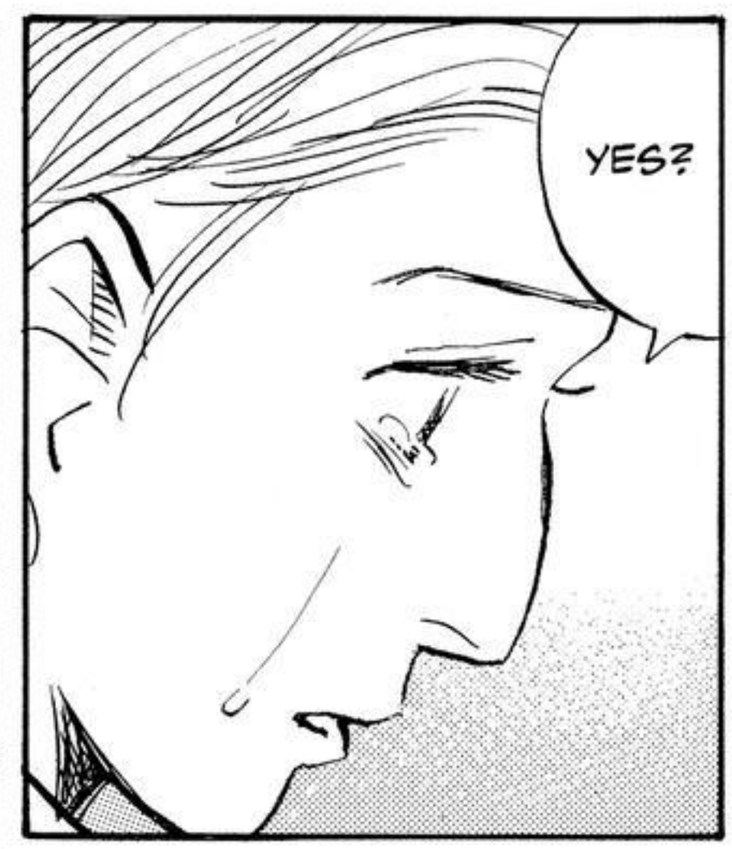
THANK YOU...

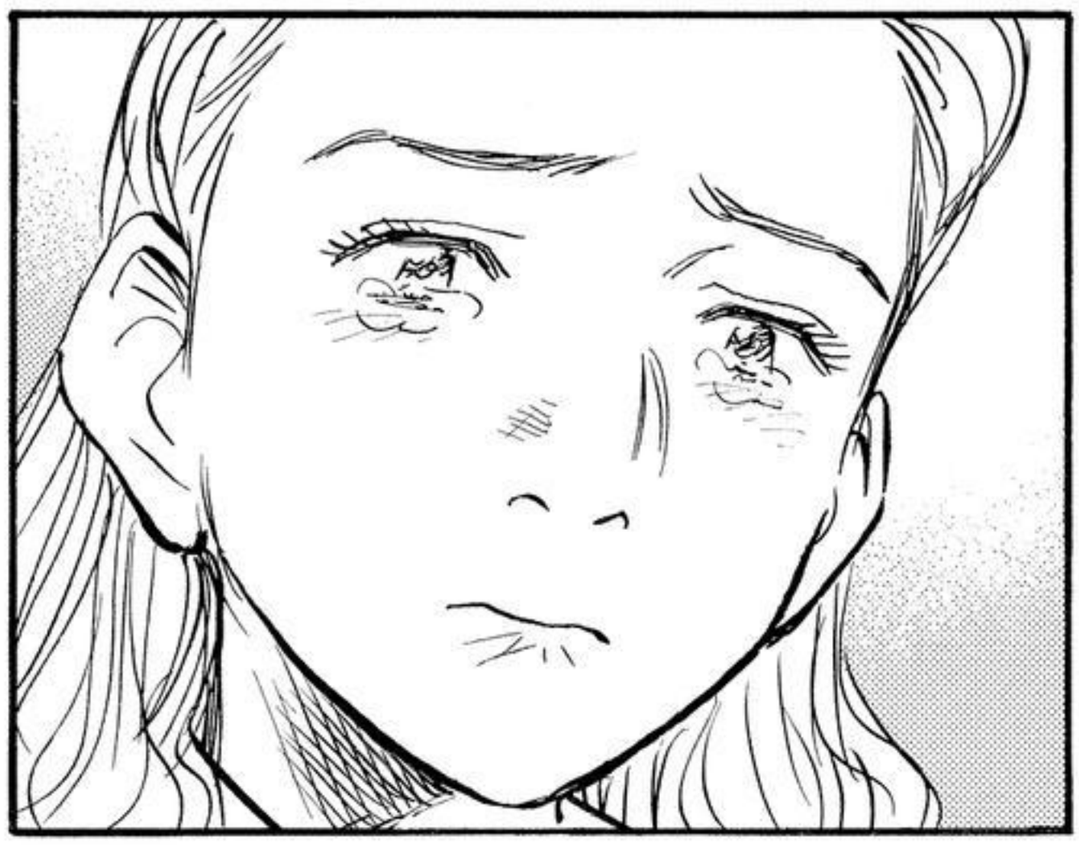

THANK YOU, ATOM.

I CAME TO TELL YOU SOMETHING, HELENA.


ALL THESE TEARS... EVEN THOUGH I'M A ROBOT...
IT'S STRANGE, ISN'T IT...

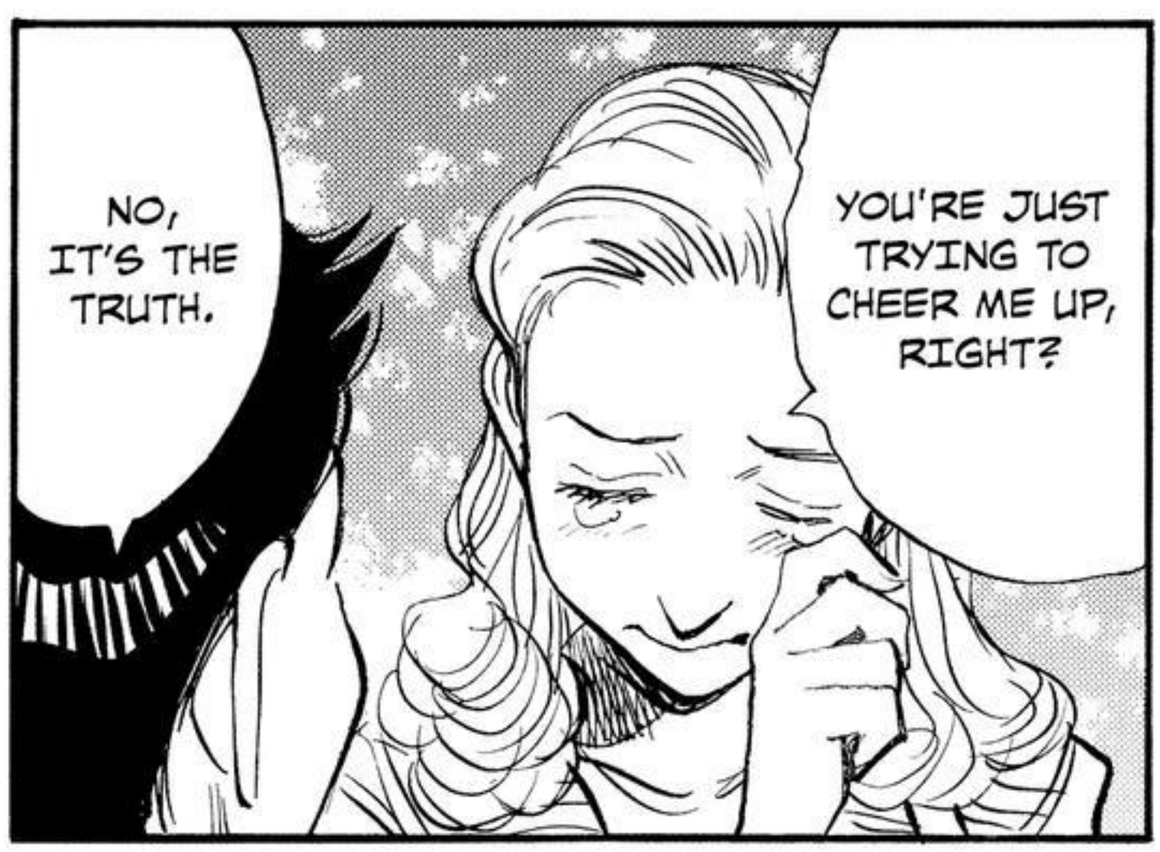
GESICHT WAS *ALWAYS* THINKING OF YOU.

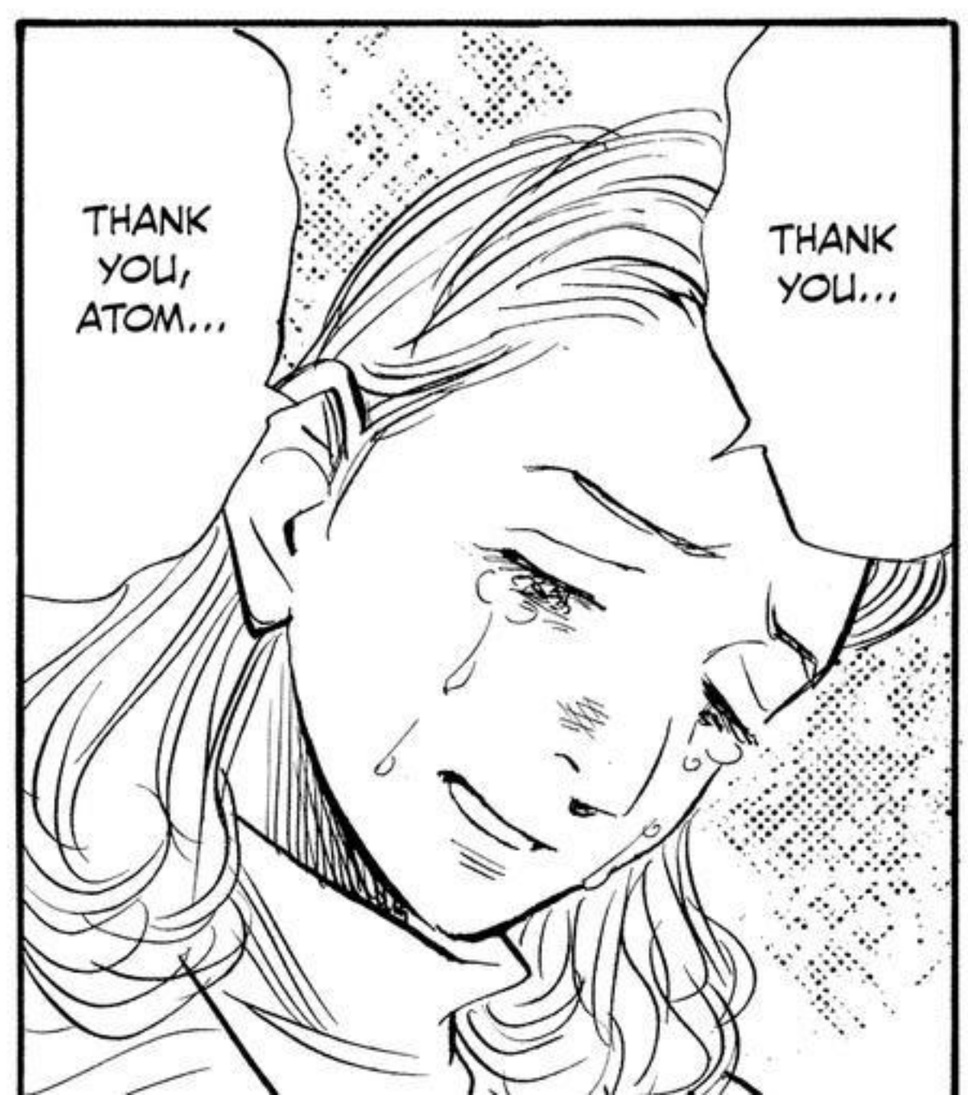

YES?



UNTIL THE VERY LAST INSTANT, HE REALLY WANTED TO SEE YOU...

AND HE WANTED TO TELL YOU THAT NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM, YOU WOULD NEVER BE ALONE...


NO, IT'S THE TRUTH.
YOU'RE JUST TRYING TO CHEER ME UP, RIGHT?


THANK YOU, ATOM...
THANK YOU...

REMEMBER? ROBOTS CAN'T LIE!

IT REALLY IS WHAT GESICHT WAS THINKING.

SURE.

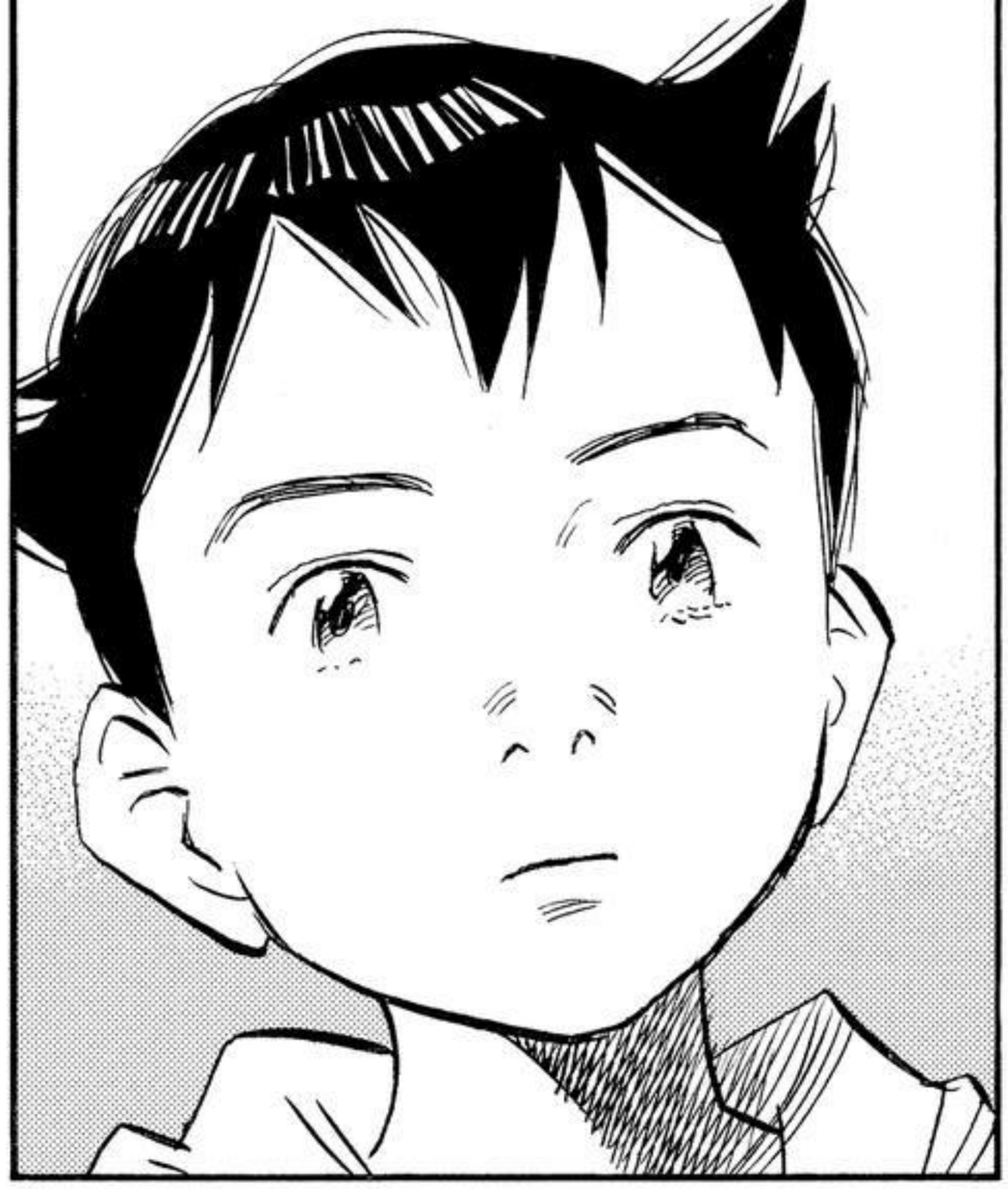
BUT CAN I ASK YOU ONE MORE THING...?

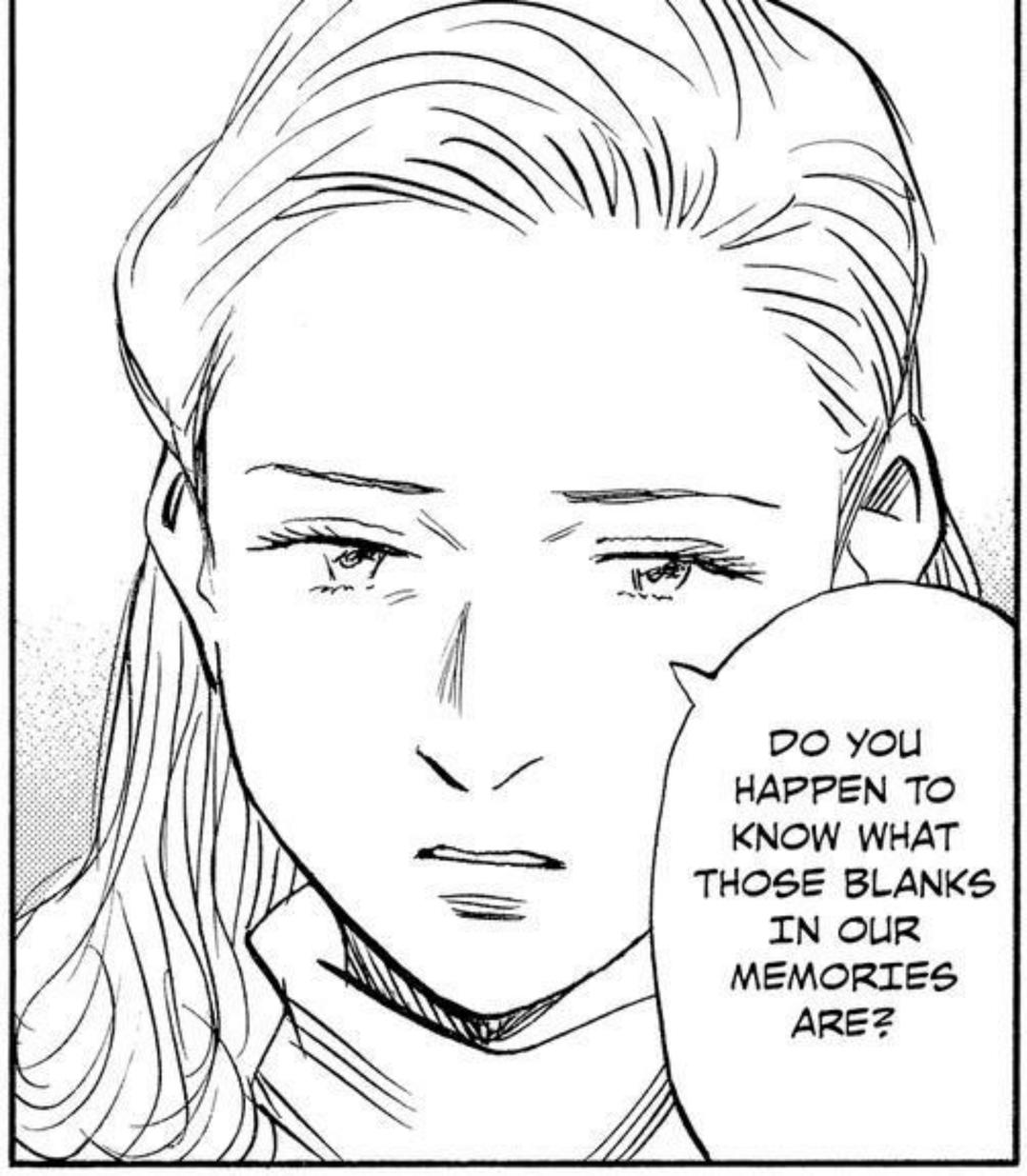
THANK YOU, ATOM...

I KEEP WONDERING IF GESICHT MIGHT HAVE MADE A BREAK-THROUGH AND REMEMBERED SOMETHING.

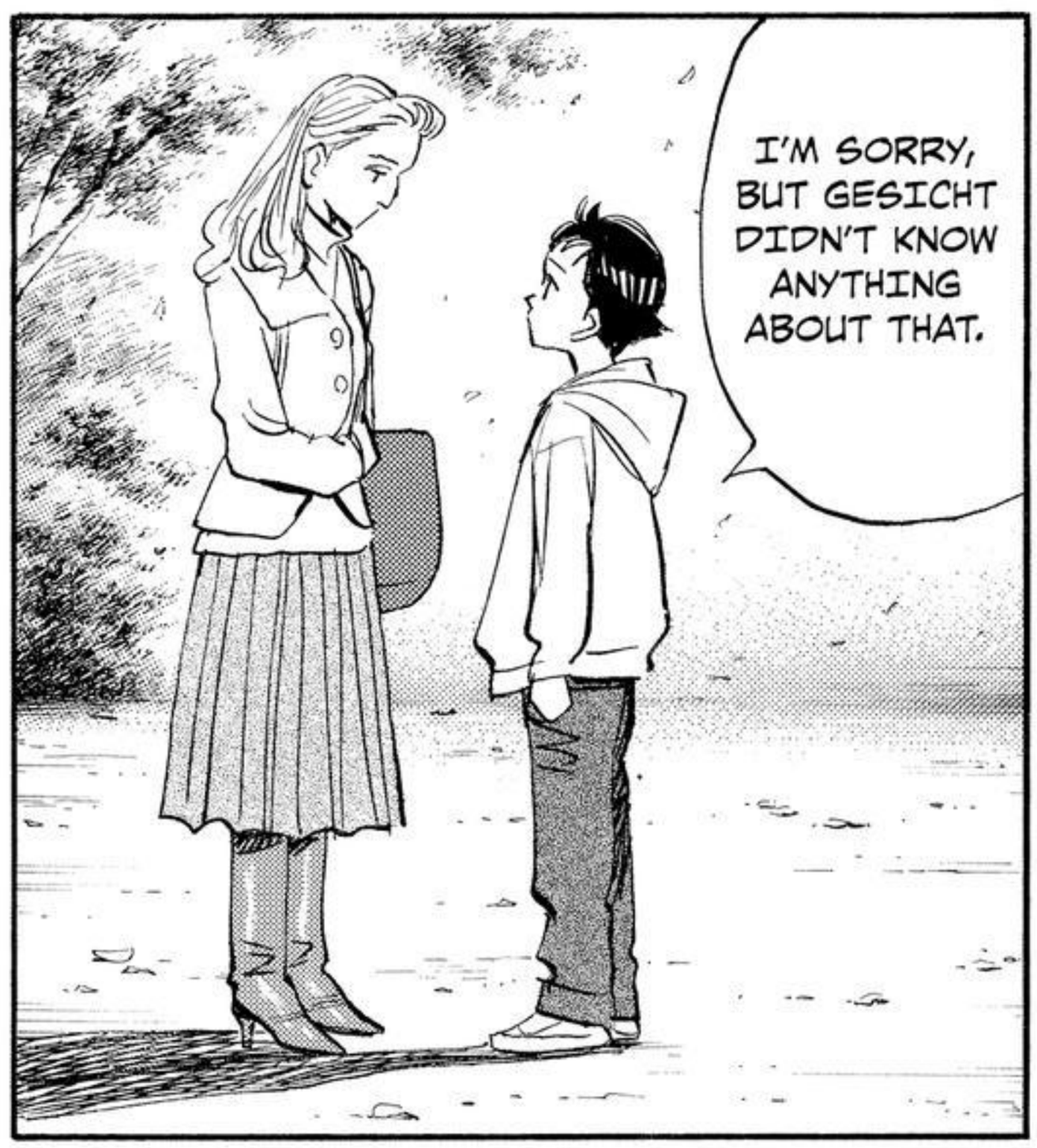
I STILL CAN'T FILL IN THE BLANKS IN MY MEMORY FROM THEN...

GESICHT AND I REALIZED WE BOTH WERE MISSING SOME MEMORIES FROM THE SAME PERIOD OF TIME.

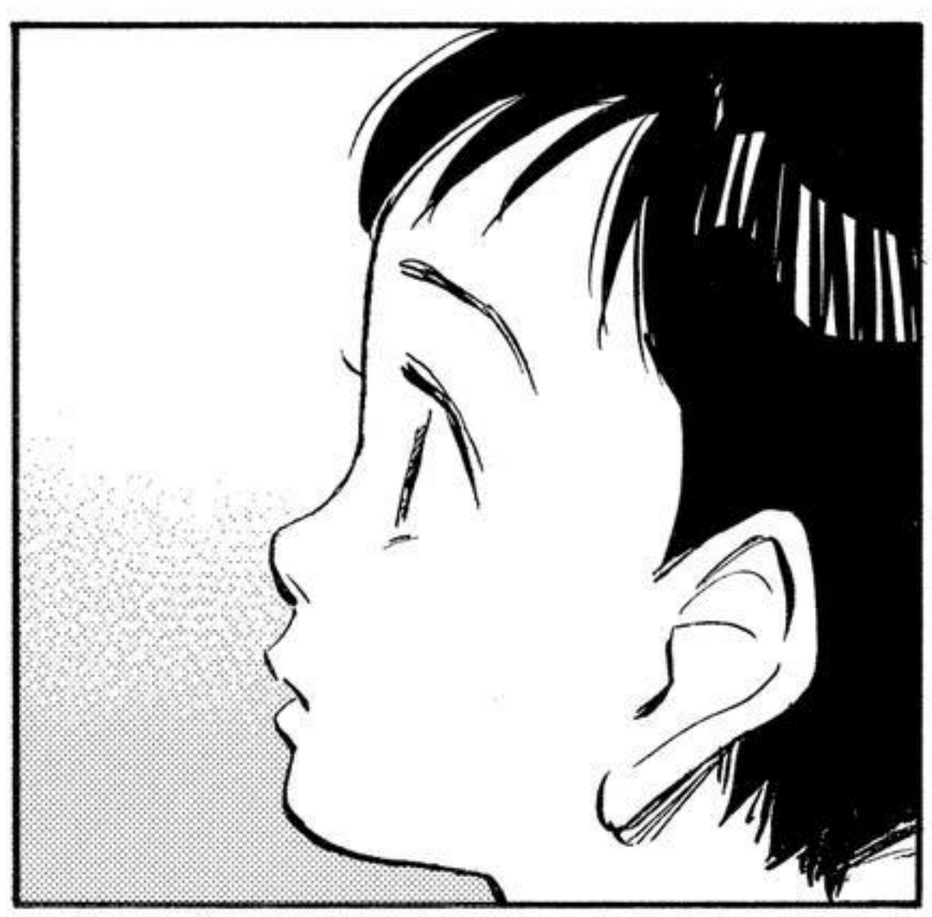



DO YOU HAPPEN TO KNOW WHAT THOSE BLANKS IN OUR MEMORIES ARE?

ARE YOU HIDING SOMETHING FROM ME?


I'M SORRY, BUT GESICHT DIDN'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THAT.

NO.



PLEASE DON'T HIDE ANYTHING. YOU CAN TELL ME...
NO MATTER HOW HARD IT IS FOR ME, I'M PREPARED TO HEAR IT.

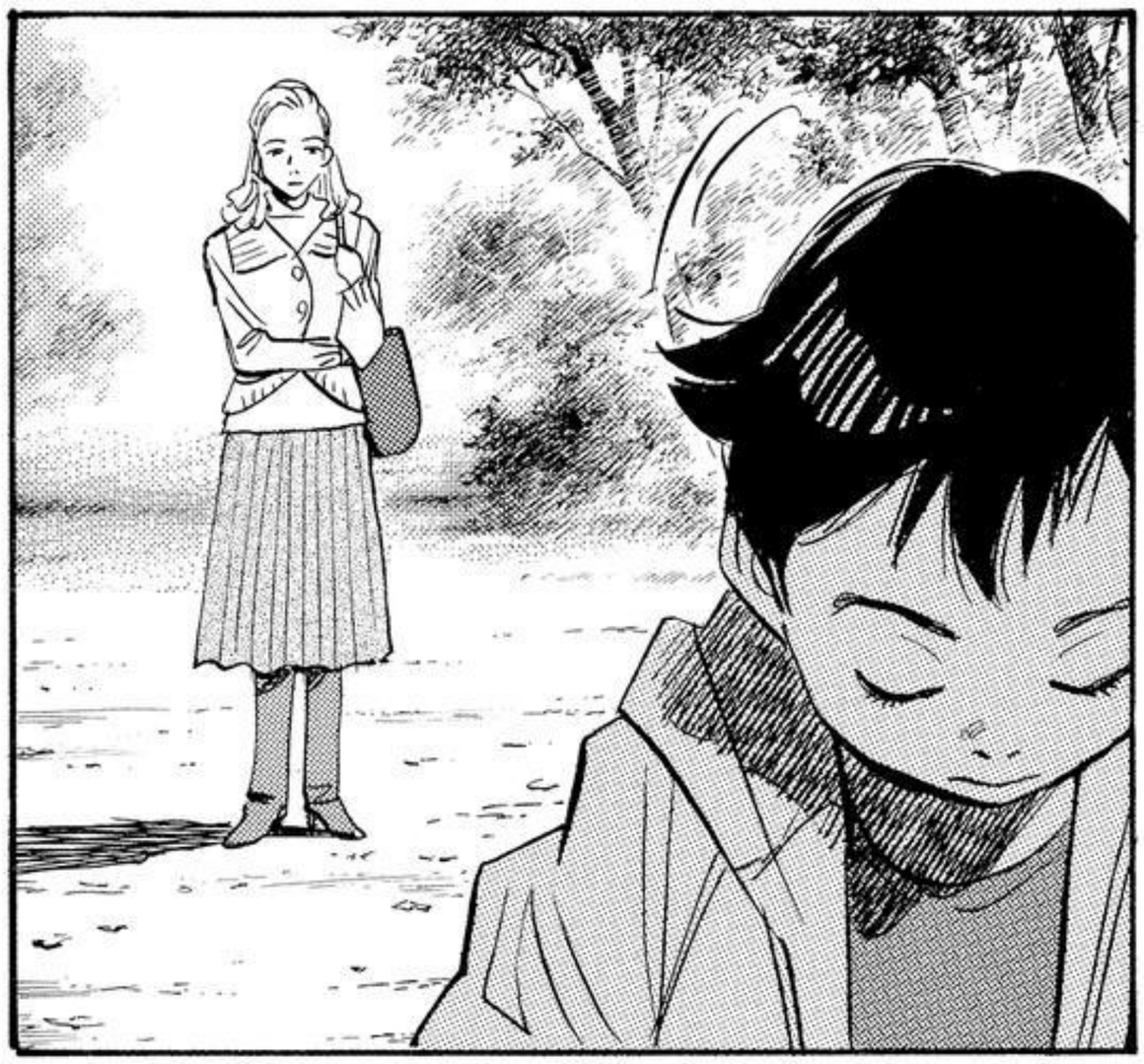
I'VE ALREADY TOLD YOU EVERYTHING I KNOW.

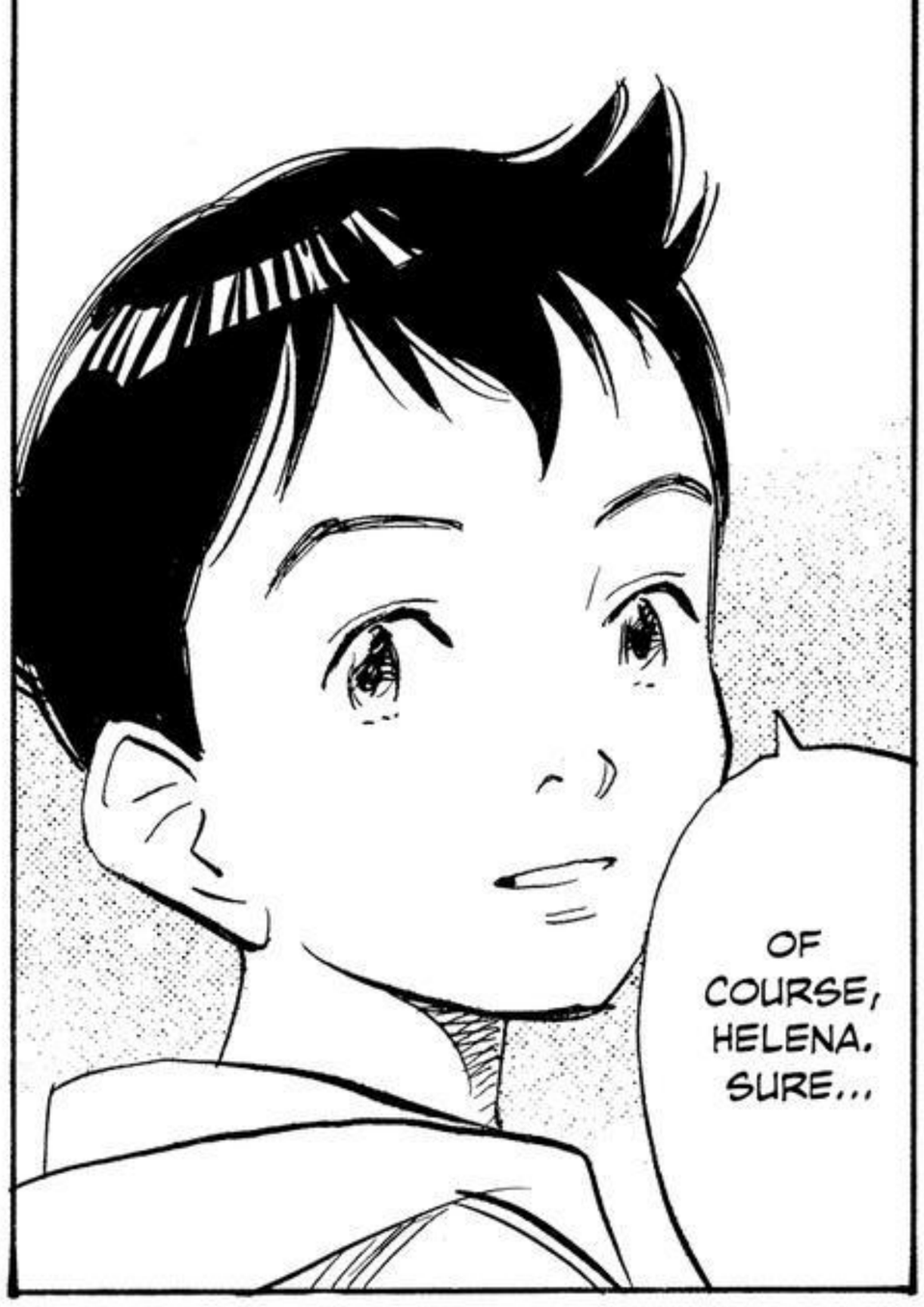
YOU'RE LEAVING?

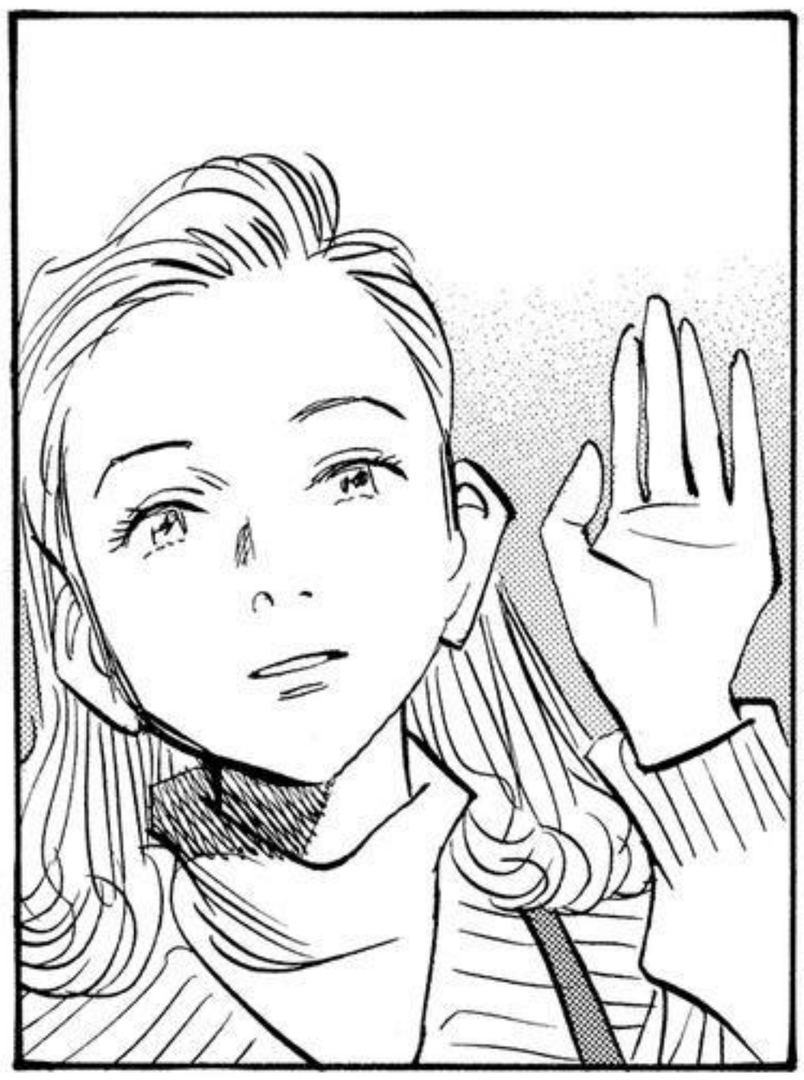
YES.

ATOM...

CAN WE... MEET AGAIN SOMETIME?

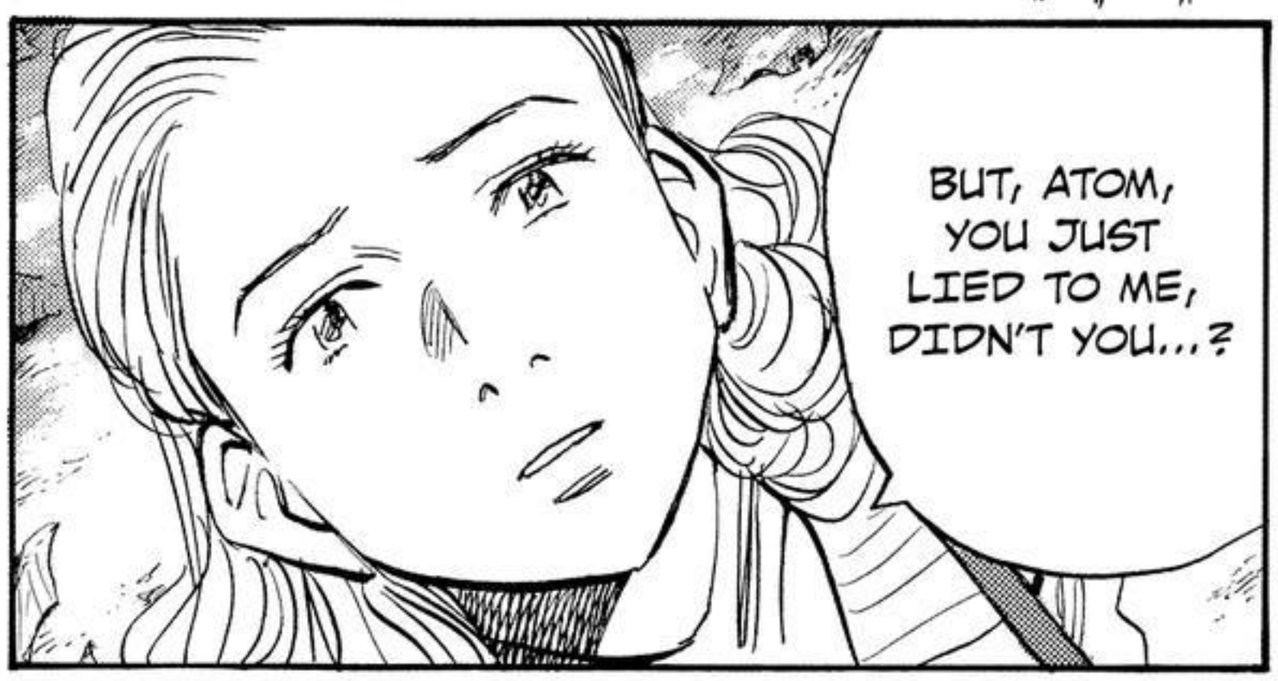



OF COURSE, HELENA. SURE...

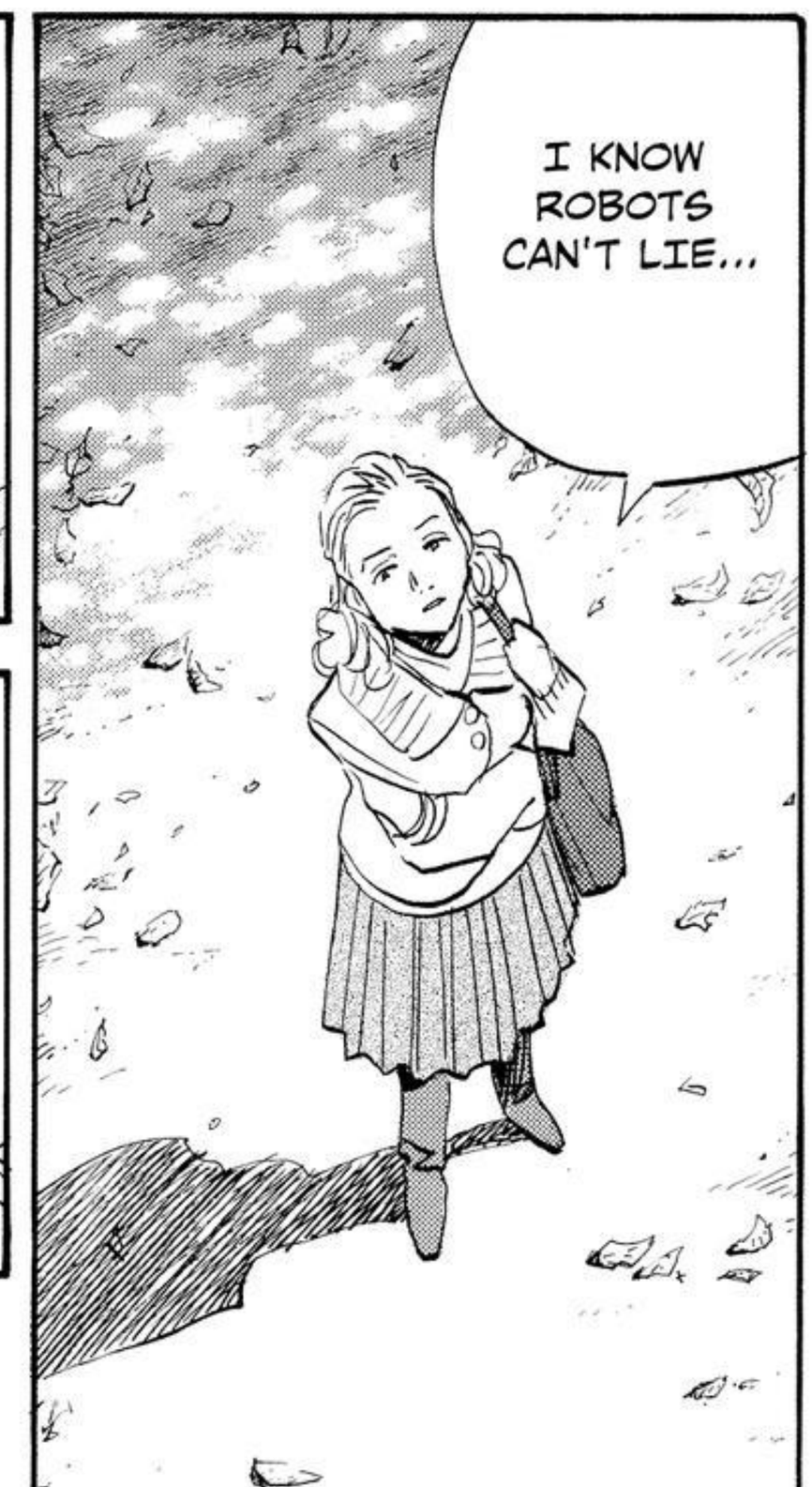


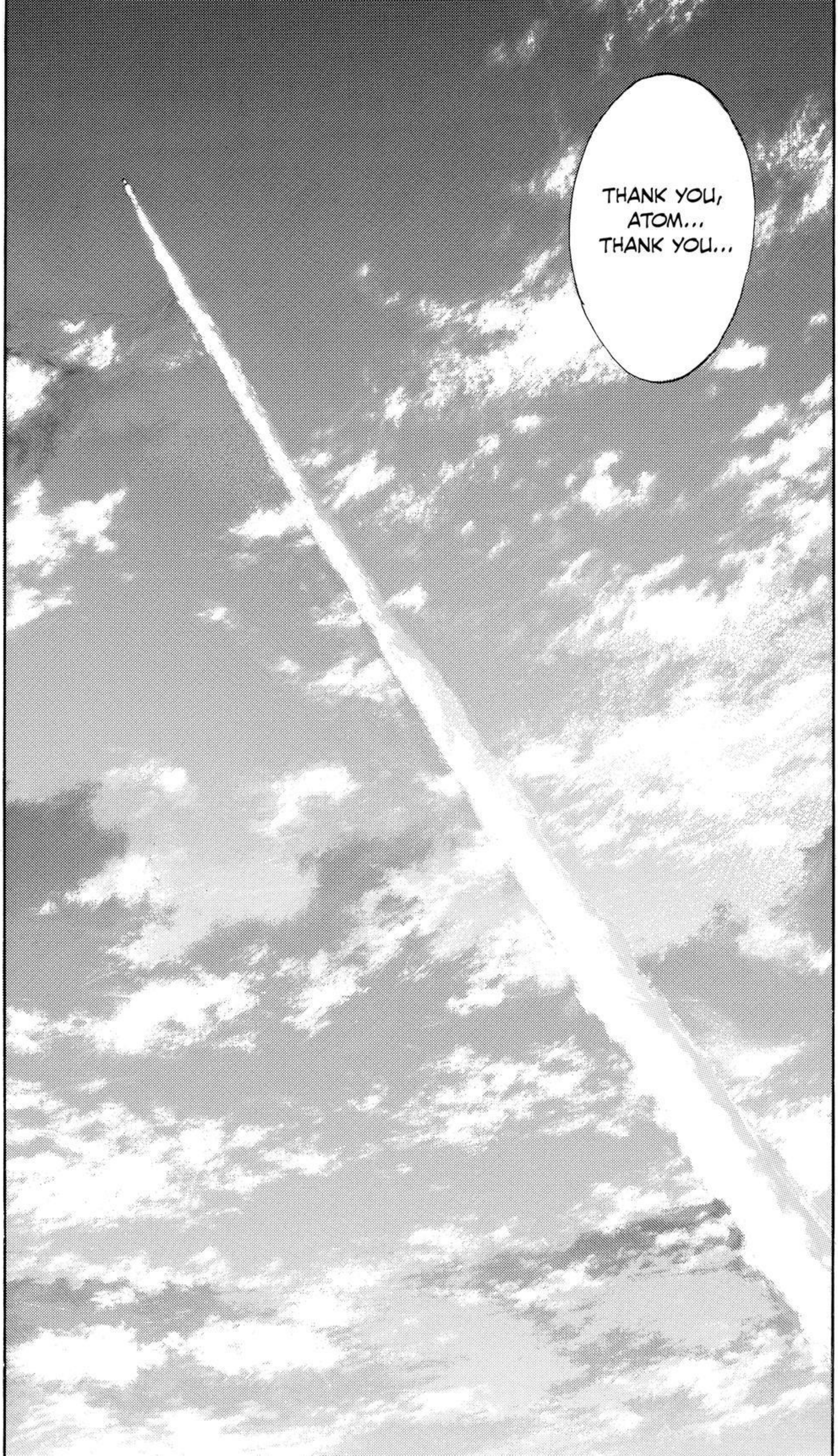
SHOOM

OFF


BUT, ATOM, YOU JUST LIED TO ME, DIDN'T YOU...?

EVEN IF YOU DID, THANK YOU...


I KNOW ROBOTS CAN'T LIE...


THANK YOU, ATOM... THANK YOU...

Act 60 THE HONEST TRUTH

I HEREBY DECLARE THIS 108TH MILITARY COURT TO BE IN SESSION.

SWEAR IN THE DEFENDANT.

RATTLE RATTLE

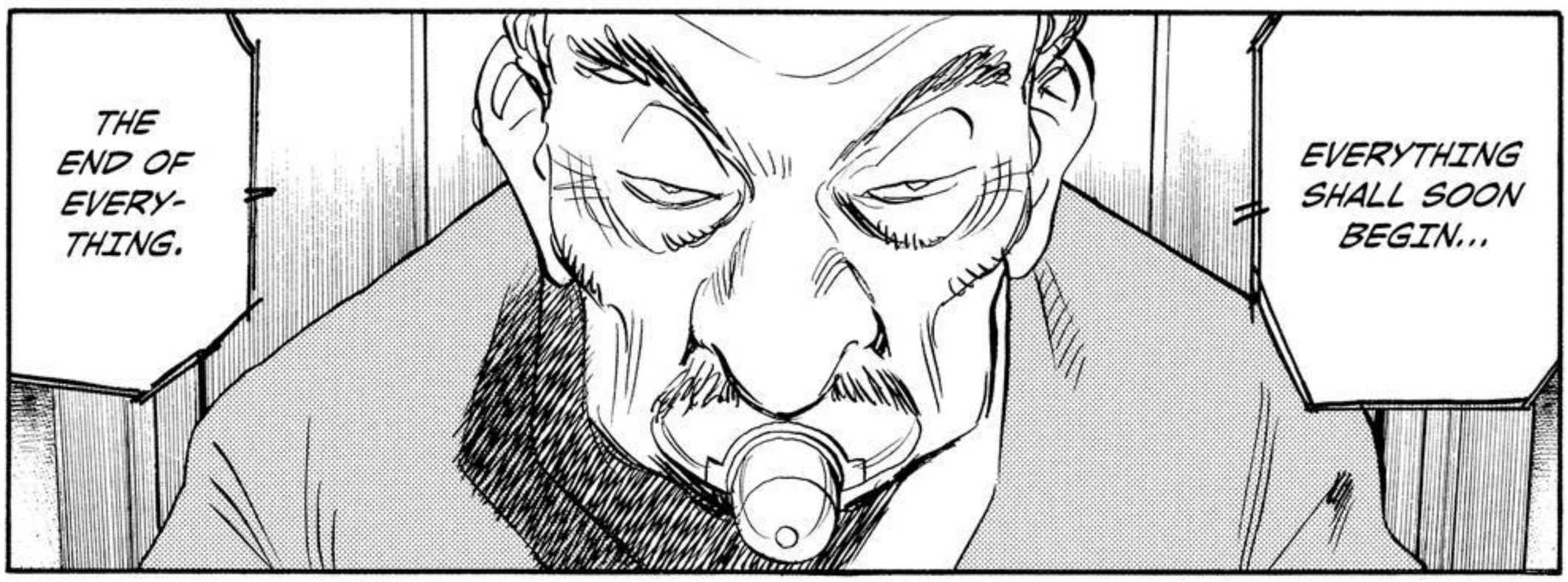
W... WHAT THE--?!!

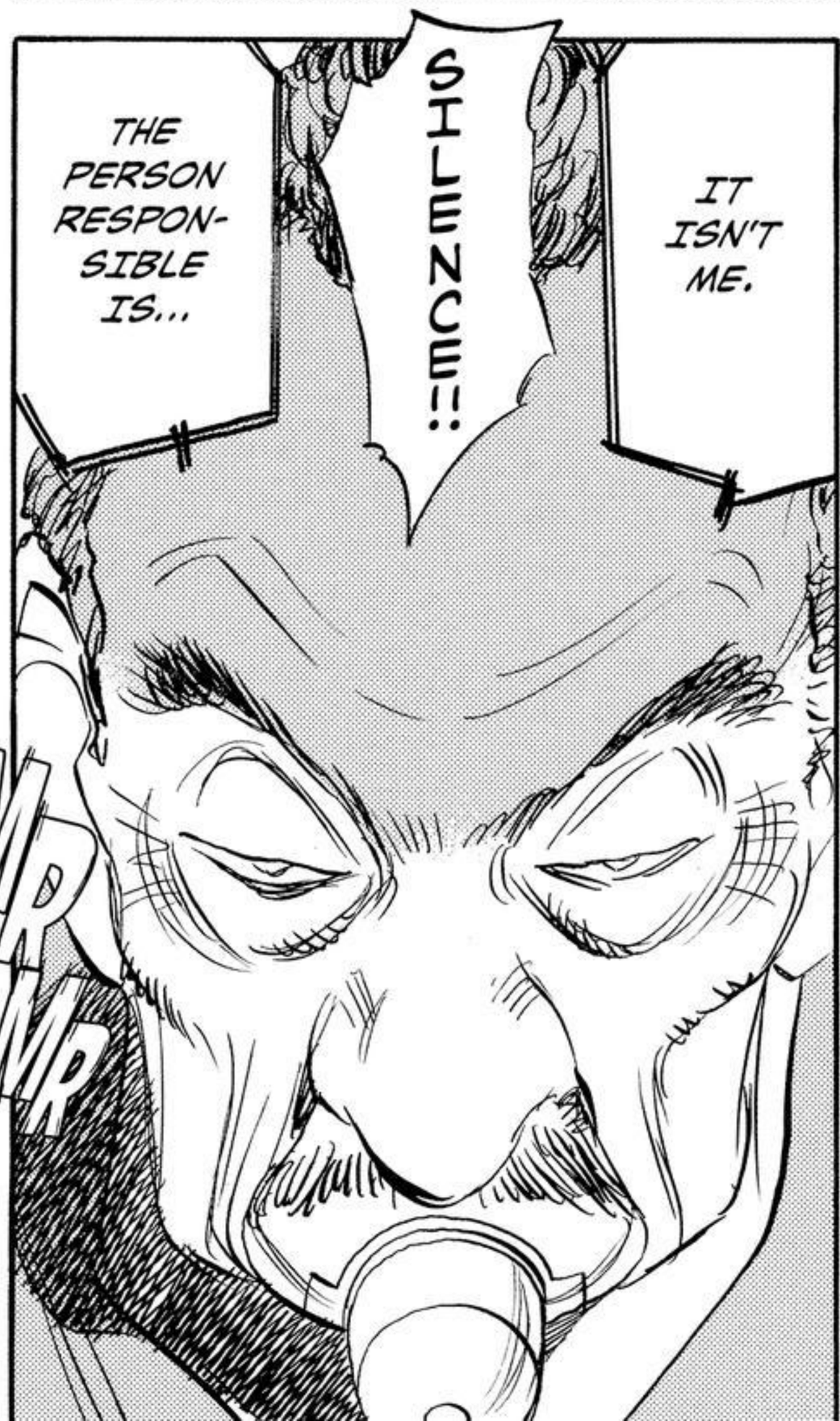
IT'S AN *EARTH-QUAKE* ...!!

RUMBLE

?!

DON'T BE UNNERVED BY A LITTLE EARTHQUAKE.


THE END OF EVERY-THING.
EVERYTHING SHALL SOON BEGIN...


THE PERSON RESPON-SIBLE IS...
SILENCE!!
IT ISN'T ME.
MRMRMR

BAM
BAM
DARIUS XIV! IN THIS COURT THE DEFENDANT MUST NOT SPEAK OUT OF ORDER!
MRMRMRMR
THESE EVENTS ARE NOT OF MY DOING.
MRMR

ABULLAH.

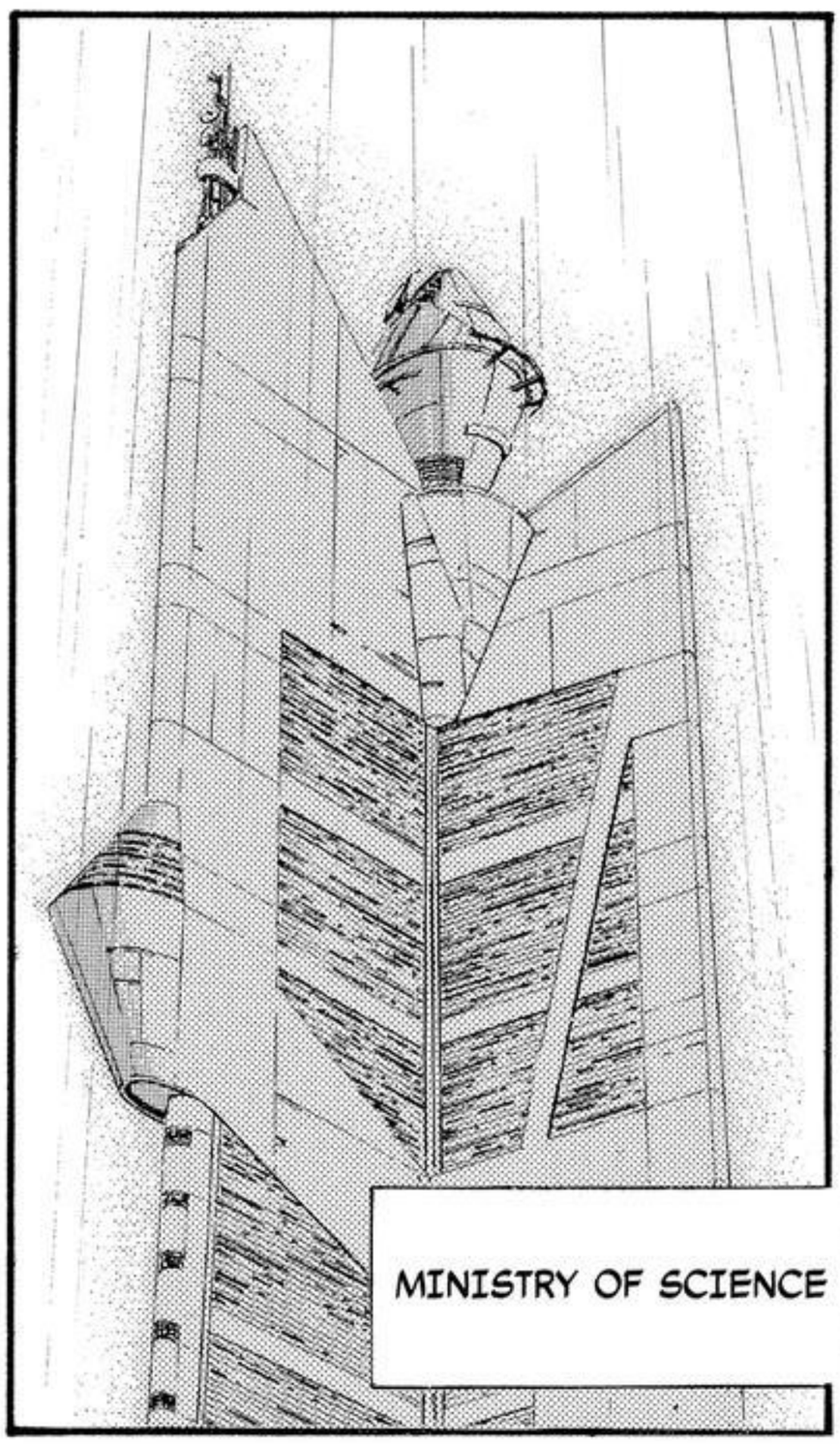
Act 60
THE HONEST TRUTH

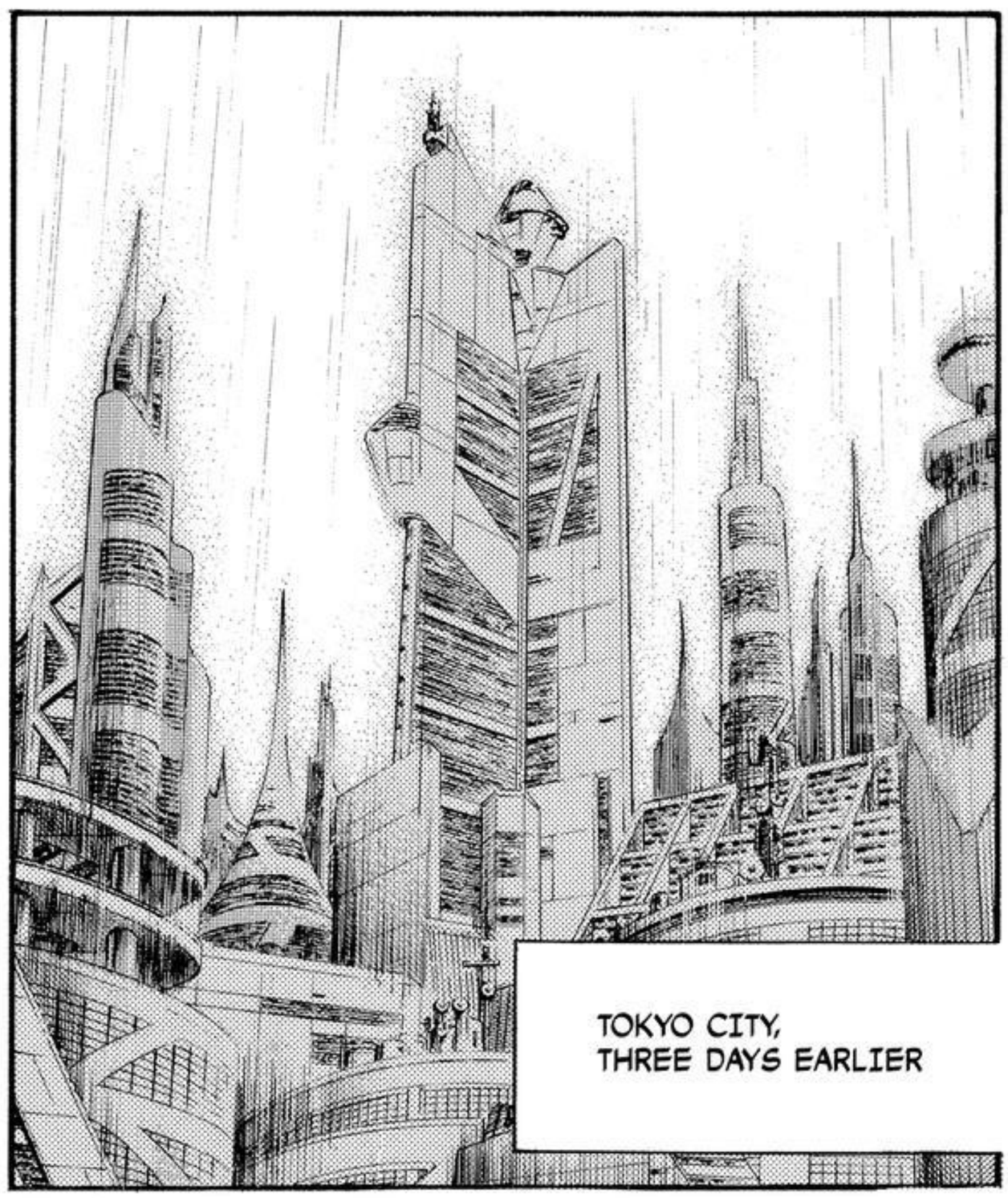
IT'S ABOUT TO START, GESICHT.

GESICHT

Der größte Roboter Europas
- Er war Polizist -
starb im Kampf für den Frieden der Menschheit

THEY SAY THIS WILL BE THE END OF EVERYTHING...





WELL, GESICHT'S AI MEMORY CHIP WAS IMPLANTED IN ME.

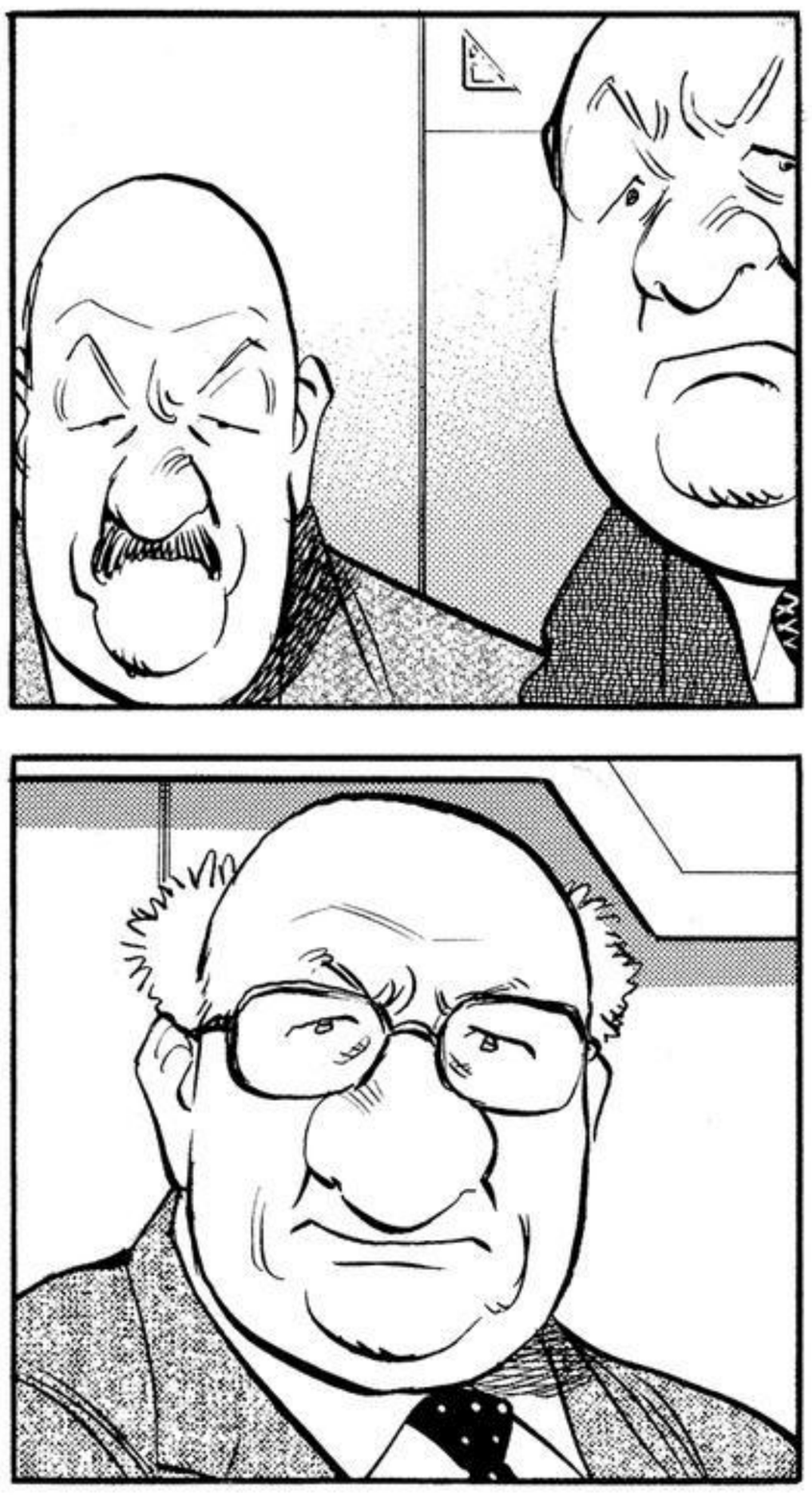
OKAY...

...IS WHAT GESICHT LEARNED ABOUT THE CASE.

SO WHAT I'M ABOUT TO TELL YOU...

HE CAME UP WITH A PLAN TO QUICKLY TURN HIS COUNTRY'S DESERT INTO A GREEN OASIS.

WHEN DARIUS XIV WAS STILL THE DICTATOR OF THE PERSIAN MONARCHY...



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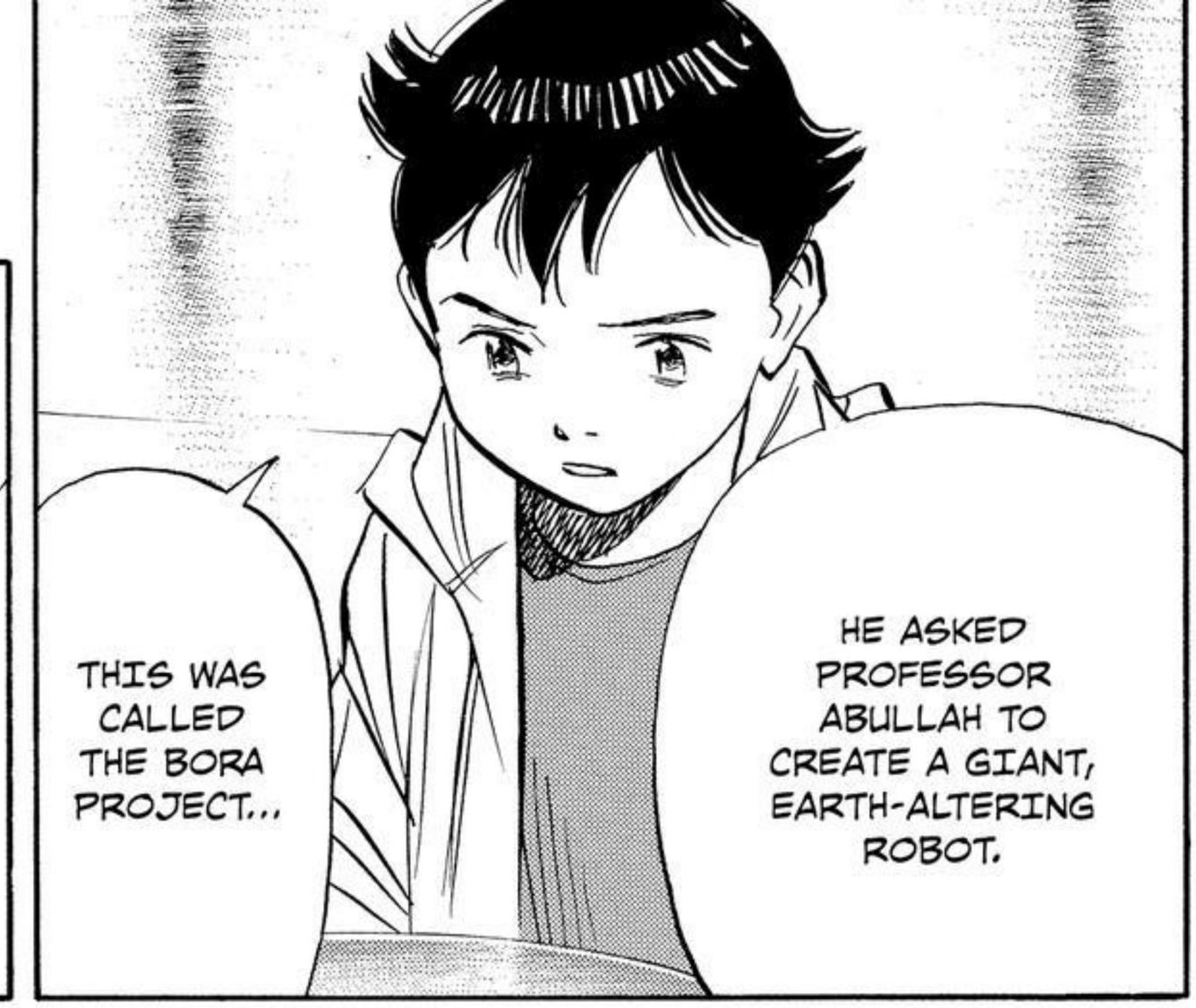
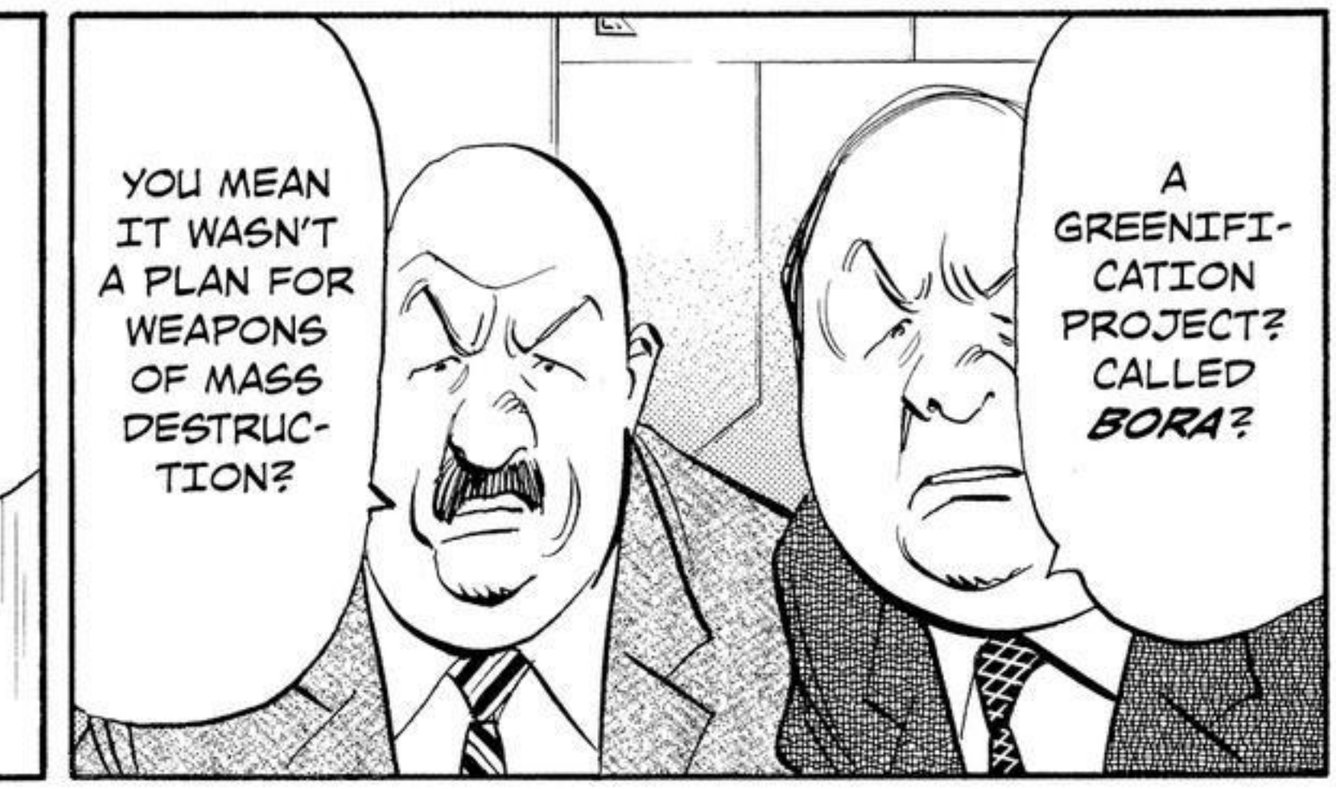

THIS WAS CALLED THE BORA PROJECT...
HE ASKED PROFESSOR ABULLAH TO CREATE A GIANT, EARTH-ALTERING ROBOT.

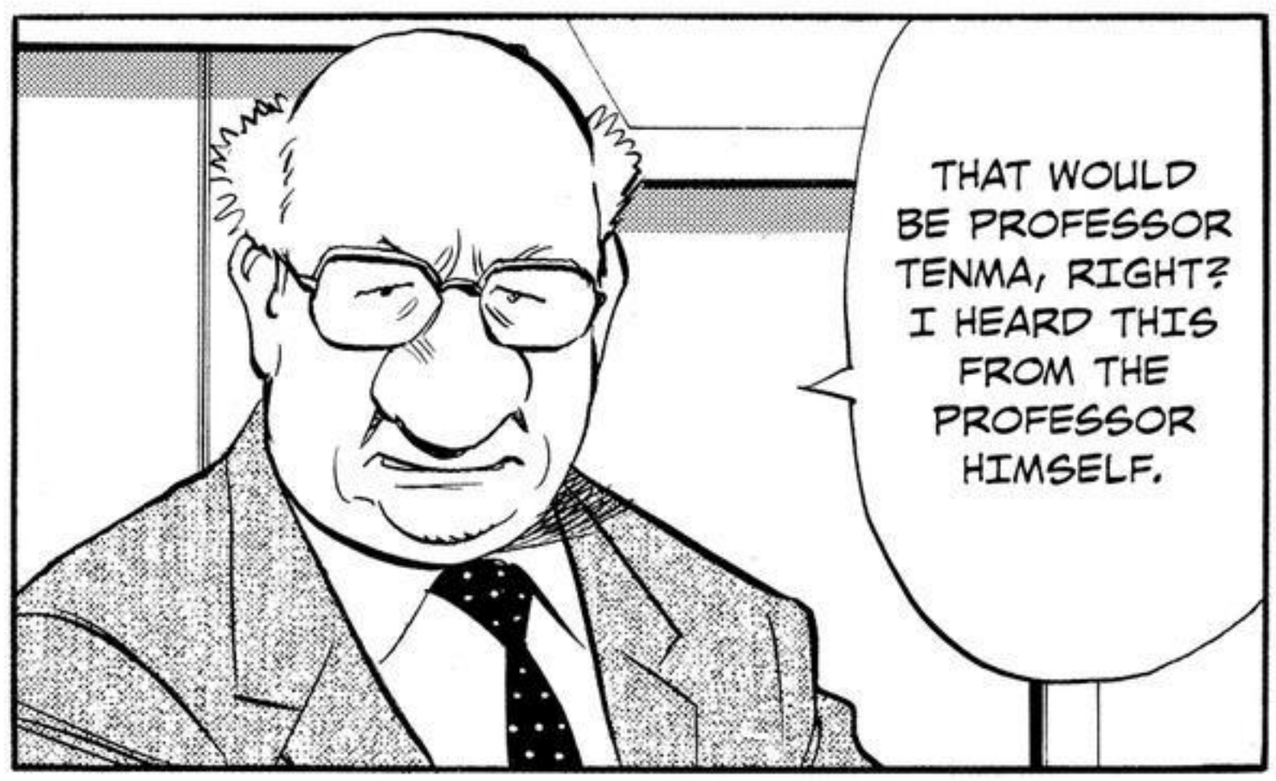
BUT...
NO. NOT IN THE BEGINNING AT LEAST...

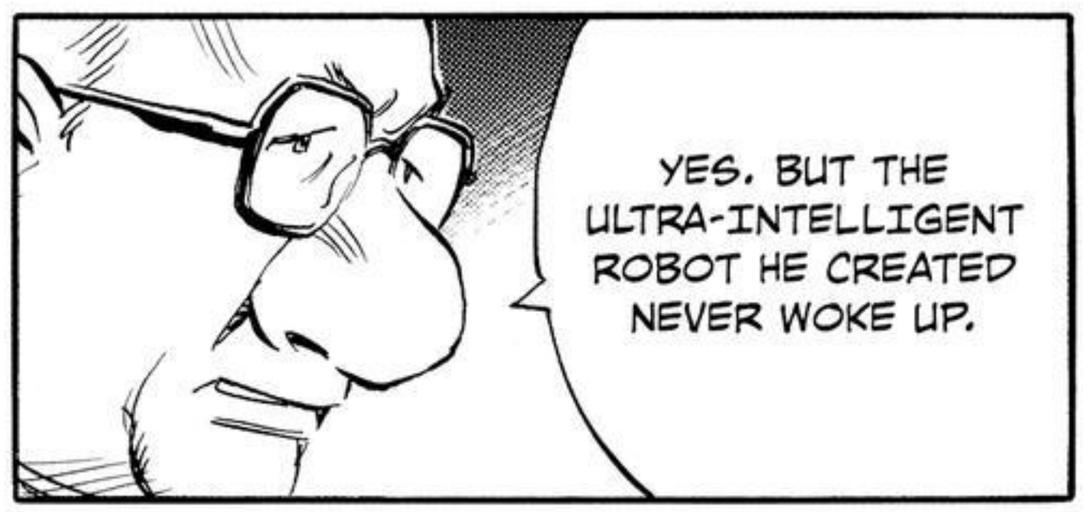

YOU MEAN IT WASN'T A PLAN FOR WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION?
A GREENIFICATION PROJECT? CALLED *BORA*?

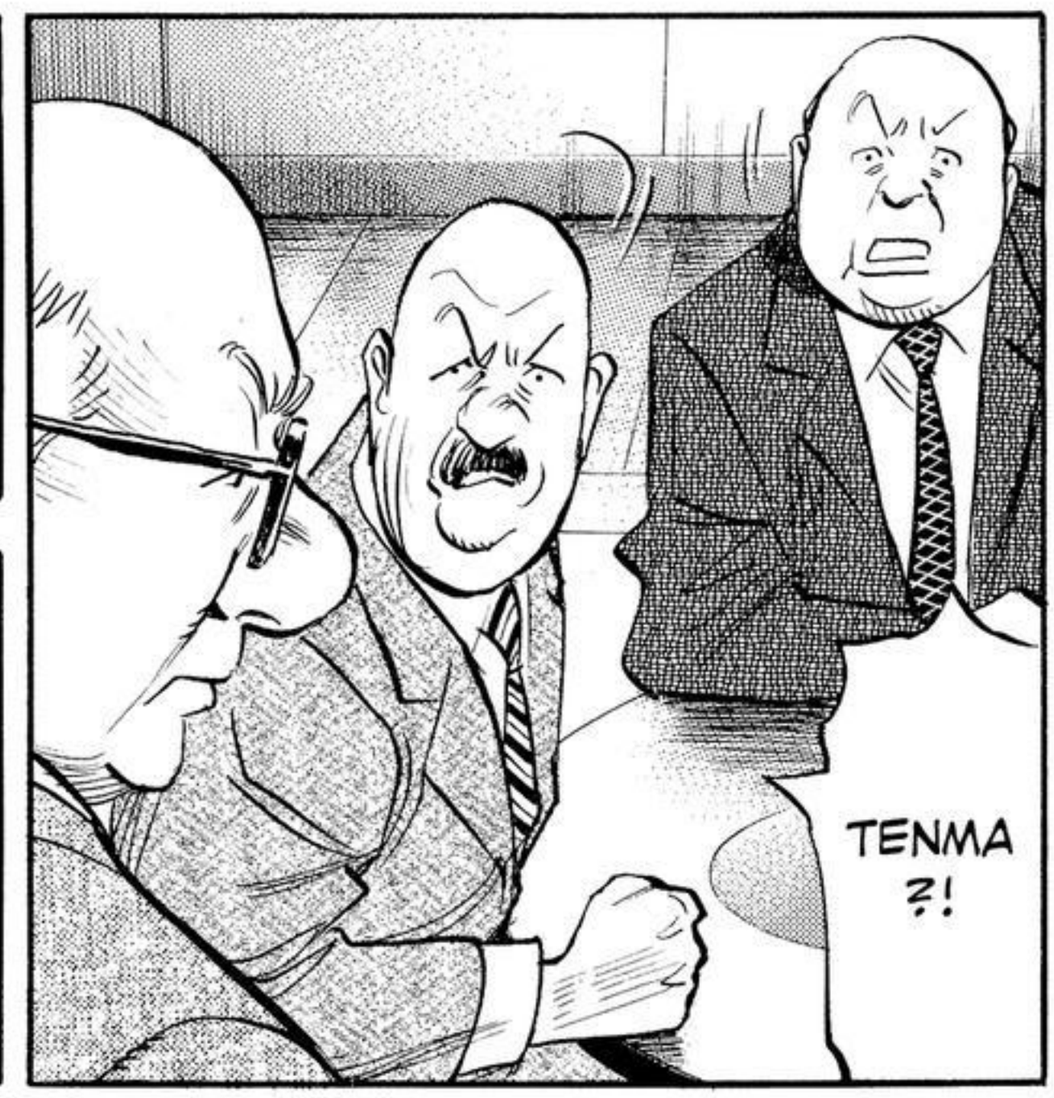
THE GRAVEYARD OF ROBOTS ...

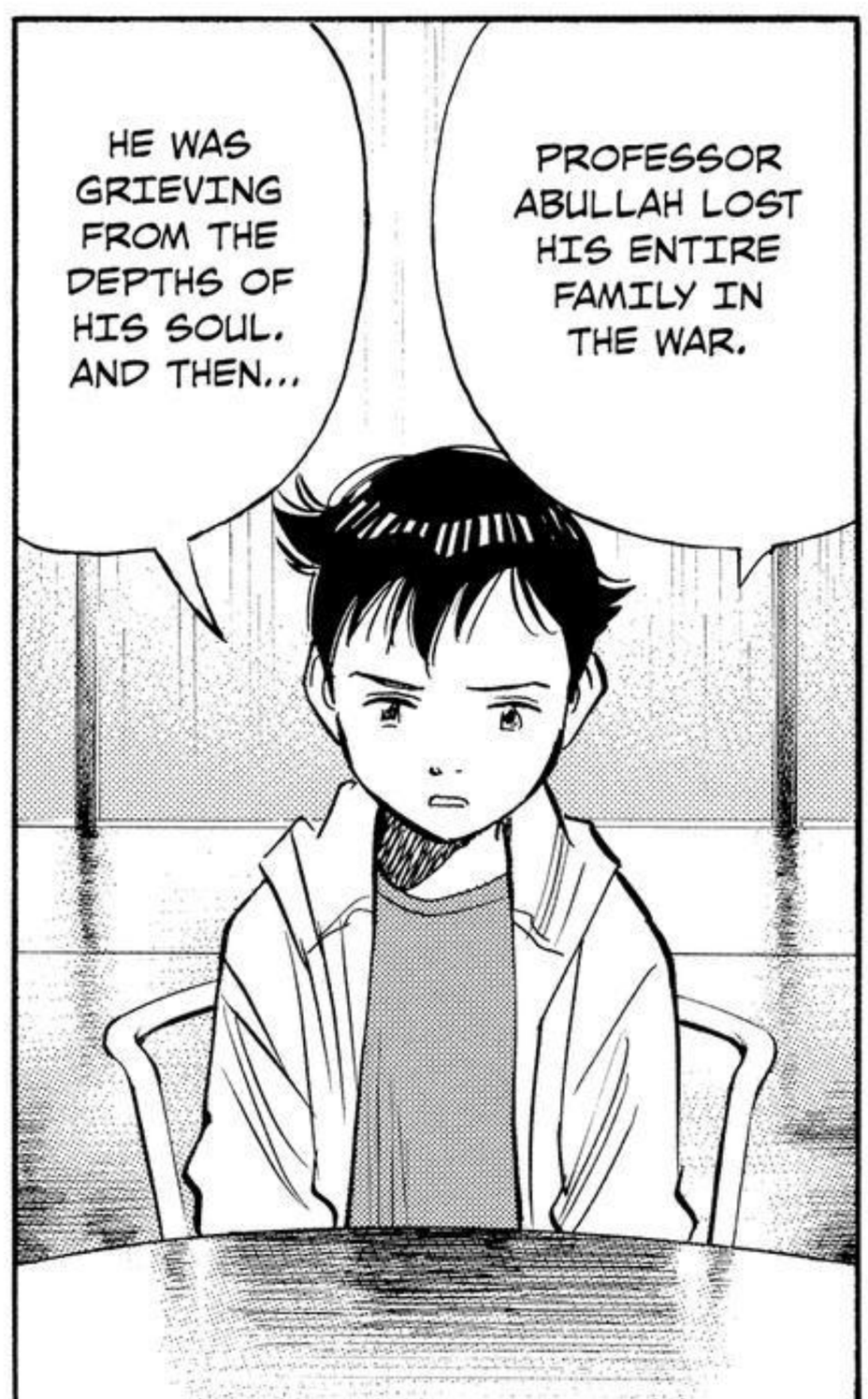
...THE MORE ROBOT PROTOTYPES PROFESSOR ABULLAH CREATED, THE MORE FAILURES HE EXPERIENCED, AND THE MORE ROBOTS HE HAD TO DISPOSE OF...
THAT'S WHAT YOU AND THE OTHERS DISCOVERED, PROFESSOR OCHANOMIZU...

A GOOD...
ASSIS-TANT...?
HE REALIZED THAT HE WOULD NEED A REALLY GOOD ASSISTANT ...
WHILE STRUGGLING WITH THE BORA PROJECT, PROFESSOR ABULLAH CAME UP WITH AN IDEA...
SO FOR THAT, HE INVITED A CERTAIN SCIENTIST TO THE PERSIAN MONARCHY.
YES. HE REALIZED THAT TO COMPLETE THE BORA PROJECT, HE'D NEED A ROBOT WITH THE MOST ADVANCED AI...
A CERTAIN SCIENTIST ...?


THAT WOULD BE PROFESSOR TENMA, RIGHT? I HEARD THIS FROM THE PROFESSOR HIMSELF.

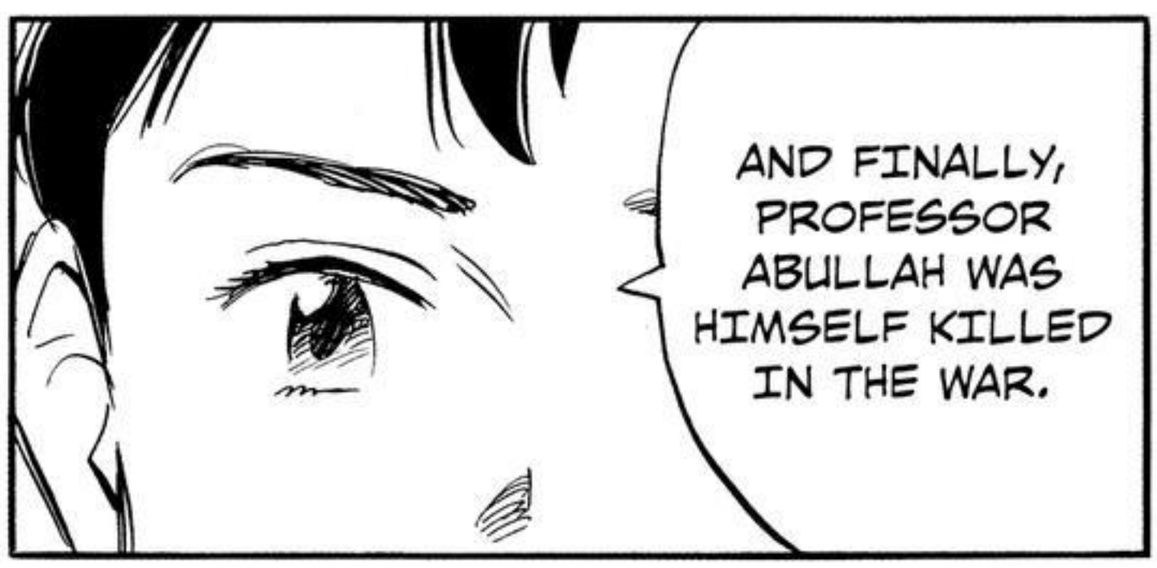

YES. BUT THE ULTRA-INTELLIGENT ROBOT HE CREATED NEVER WOKE UP.


TENMA ?!


HE WAS GRIEVING FROM THE DEPTHS OF HIS SOUL. AND THEN...
PROFESSOR ABULLAH LOST HIS ENTIRE FAMILY IN THE WAR.

NOT UNTIL HE PERFORMED A SPECIAL PROCEDURE.

?

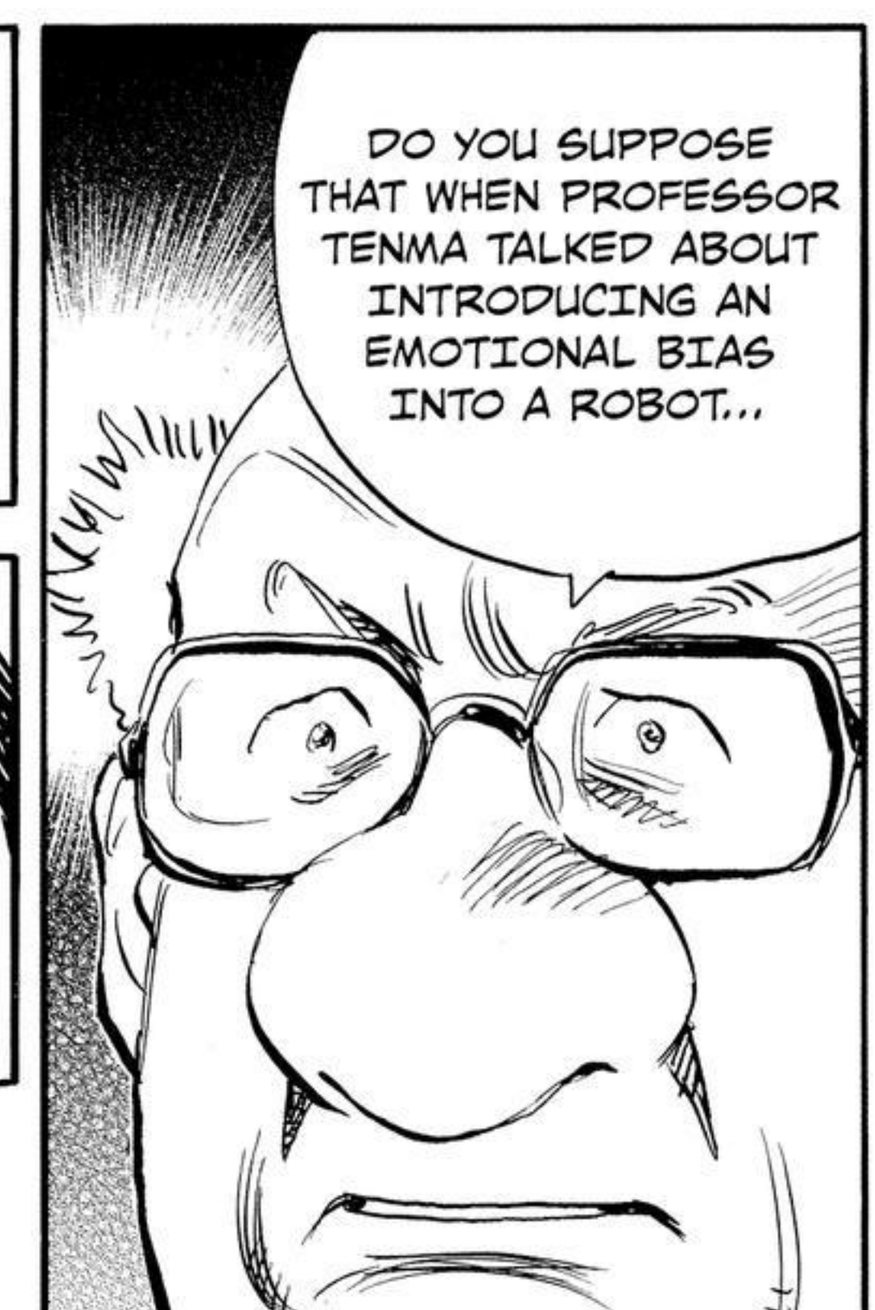

AND FINALLY, PROFESSOR ABULLAH WAS HIMSELF KILLED IN THE WAR.

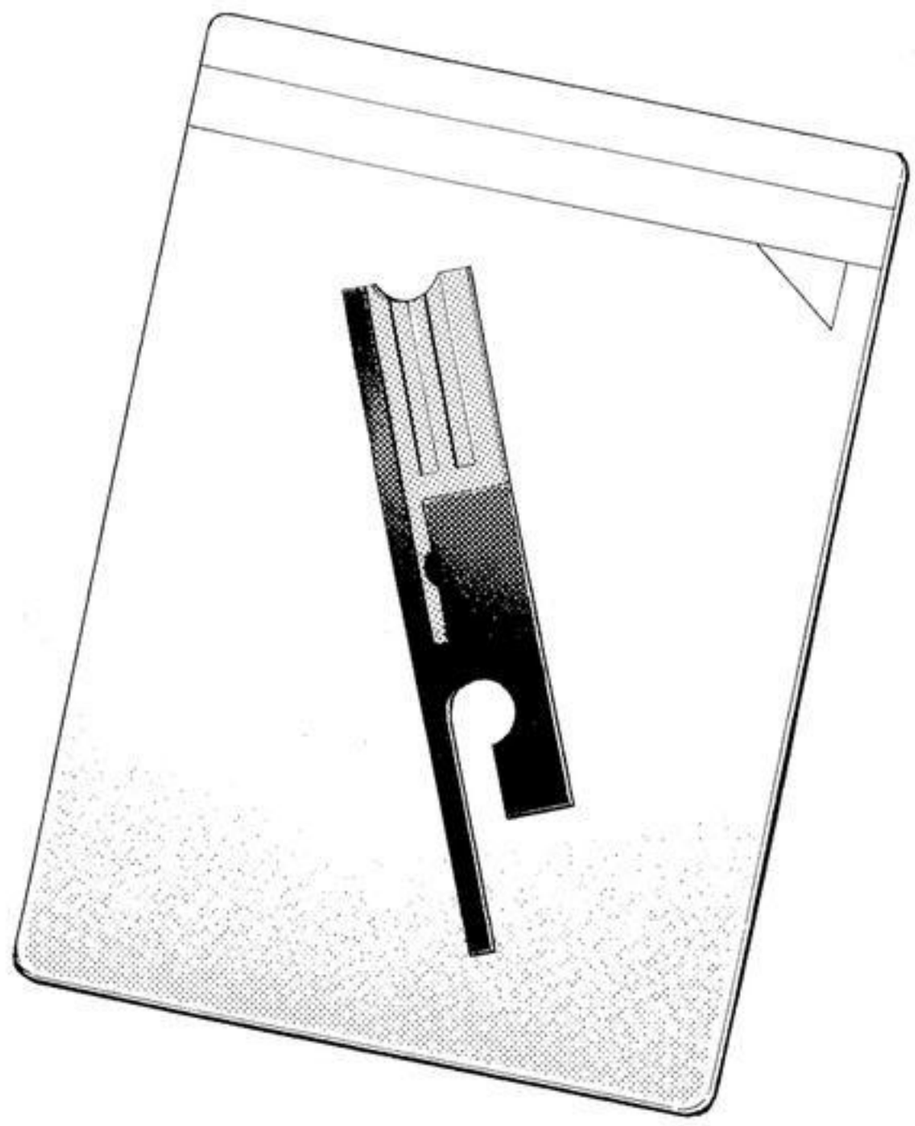
HE BEGAN TO HATE THE WORLD.

WAIT... DO YOU SUPPOSE ...

YES! WE MET ABULLAH JUST A WHILE AGO.
NOW HOLD ON, ATOM... YOU'VE GOTTA BE KIDDING!

YES... THAT'S WHAT MADE THE WORLD'S MOST ADVANCED AI WAKE UP....


DO YOU SUPPOSE THAT WHEN PROFESSOR TENMA TALKED ABOUT INTRODUCING AN EMOTIONAL BIAS INTO A ROBOT...



HATRED FROM THE DEAD PROFESSOR *ABULLAH.*

HE INTRODUCED *HATRED...*

YOU MEAN THE MAN WE MET WHO CALLED HIMSELF ABULLAH WAS...

Y-YOU MEAN...

BZZZT

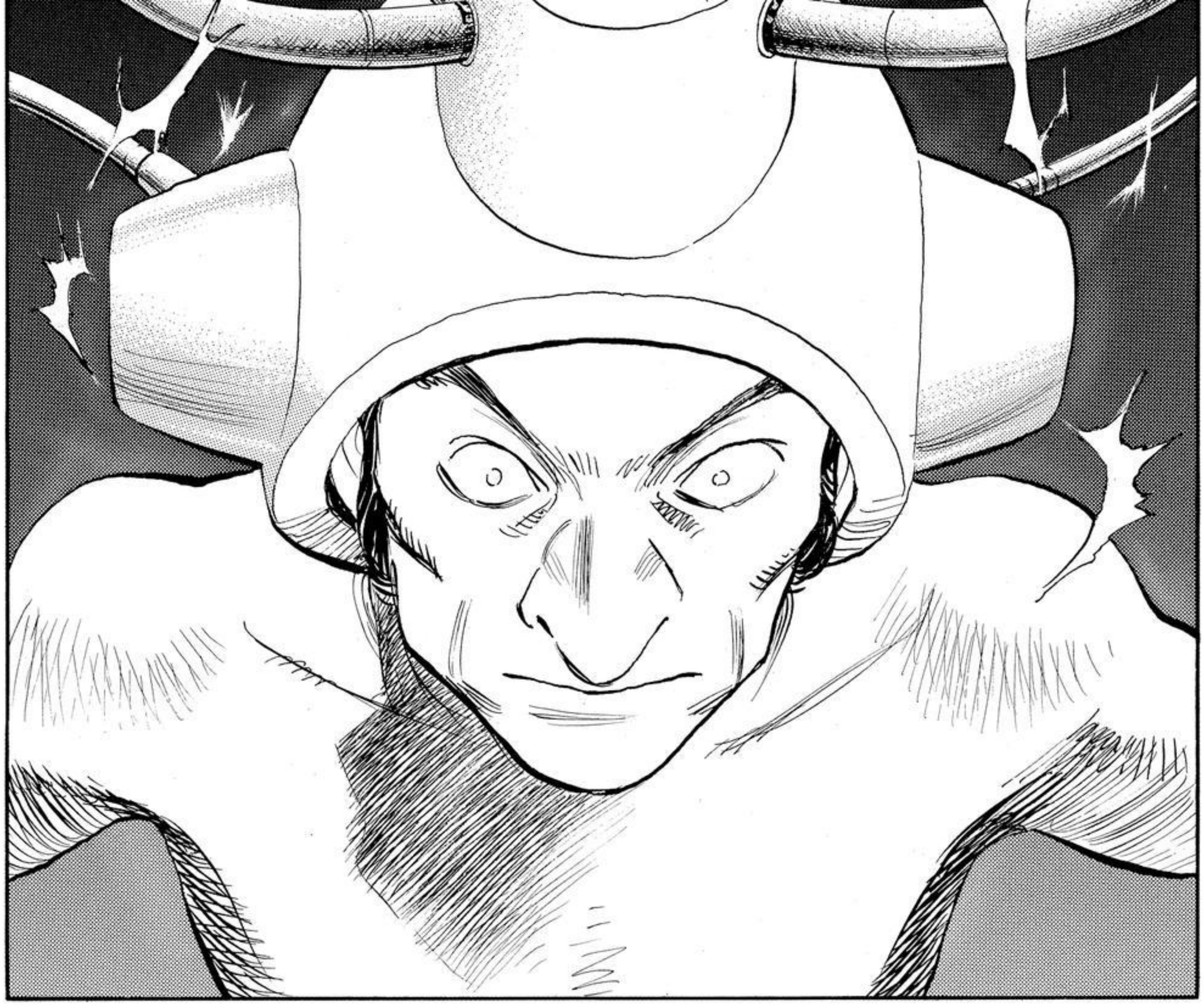
ZZZK

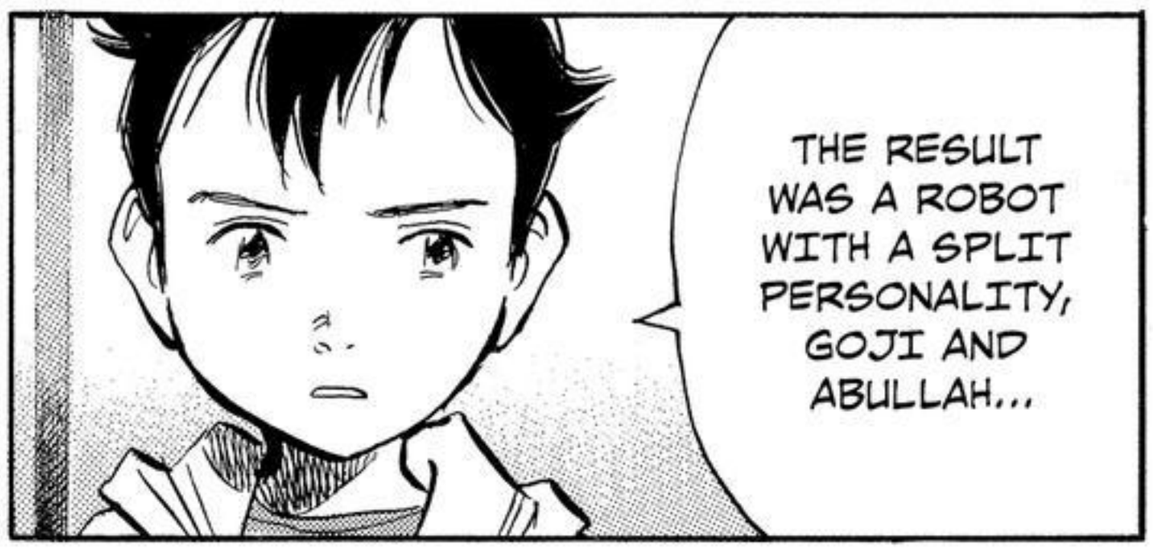
?

WHAT THE--?!

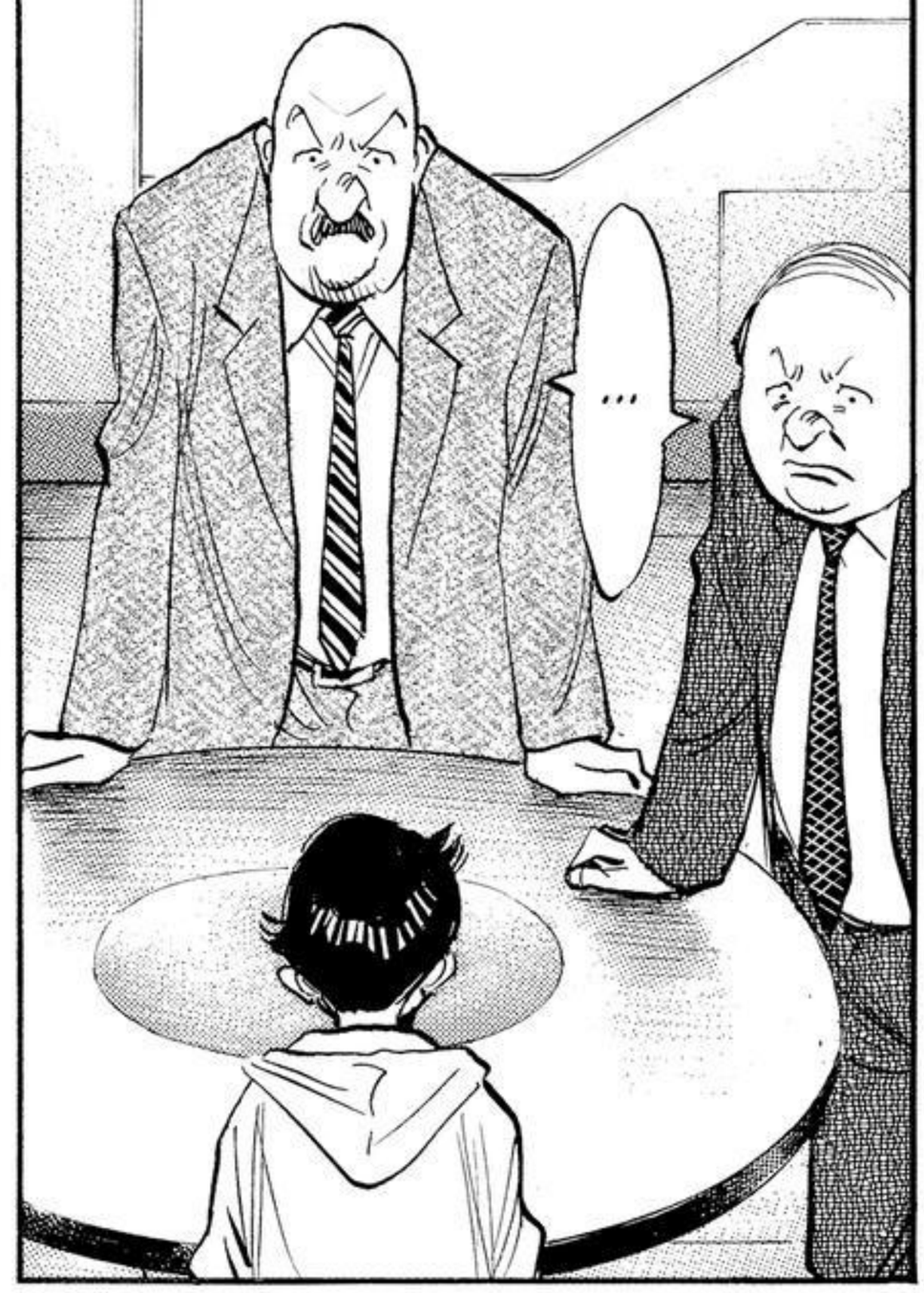
UMF! THE BOMBINGS ARE GETTING EVEN CLOSER!

RUMBLE




THE RESULT WAS A ROBOT WITH A SPLIT PERSONALITY, GOJI AND ABULLAH...

SO THE SCIENTIST CALLED GOJI NEVER REALLY EXISTED...?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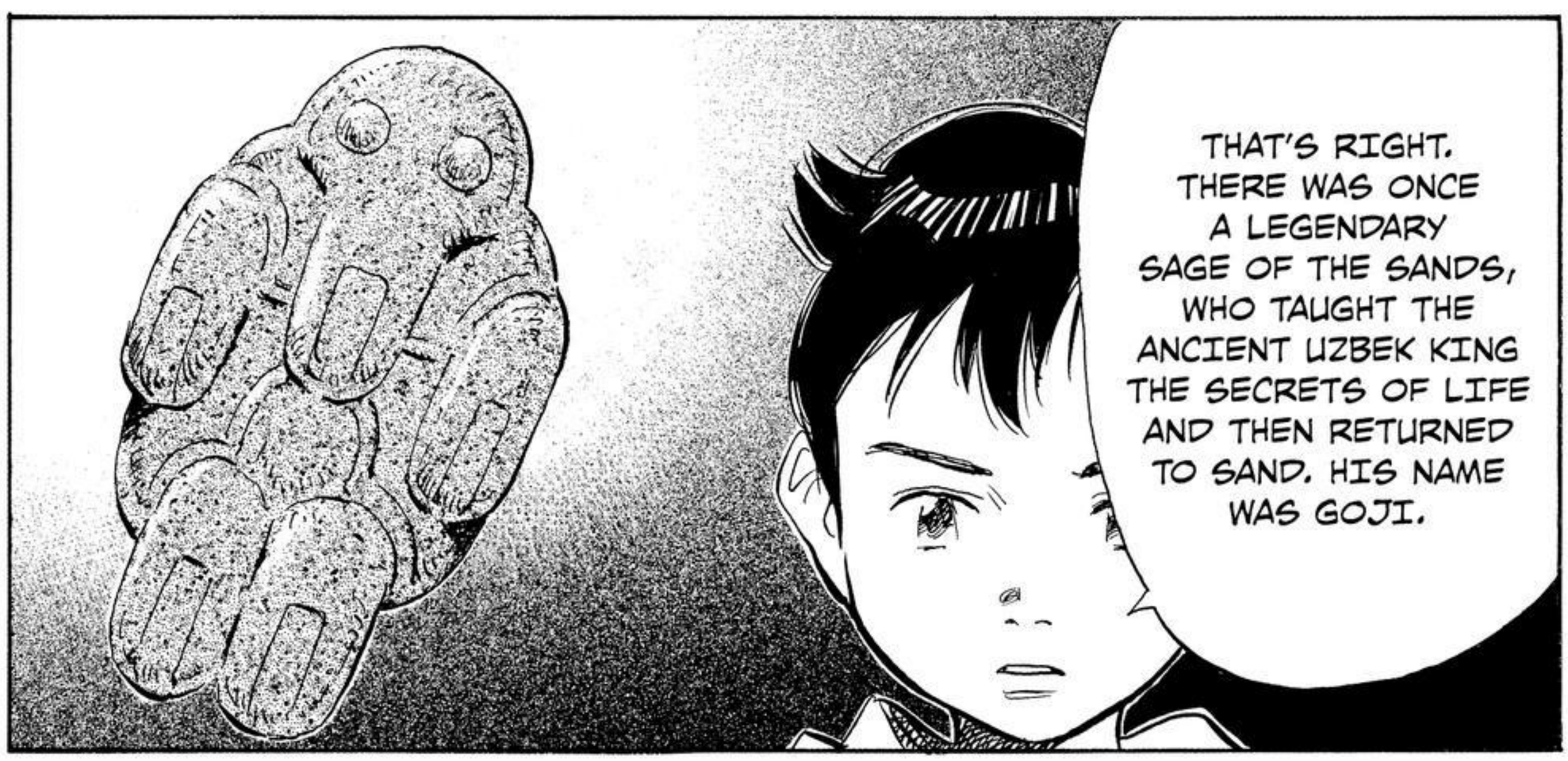
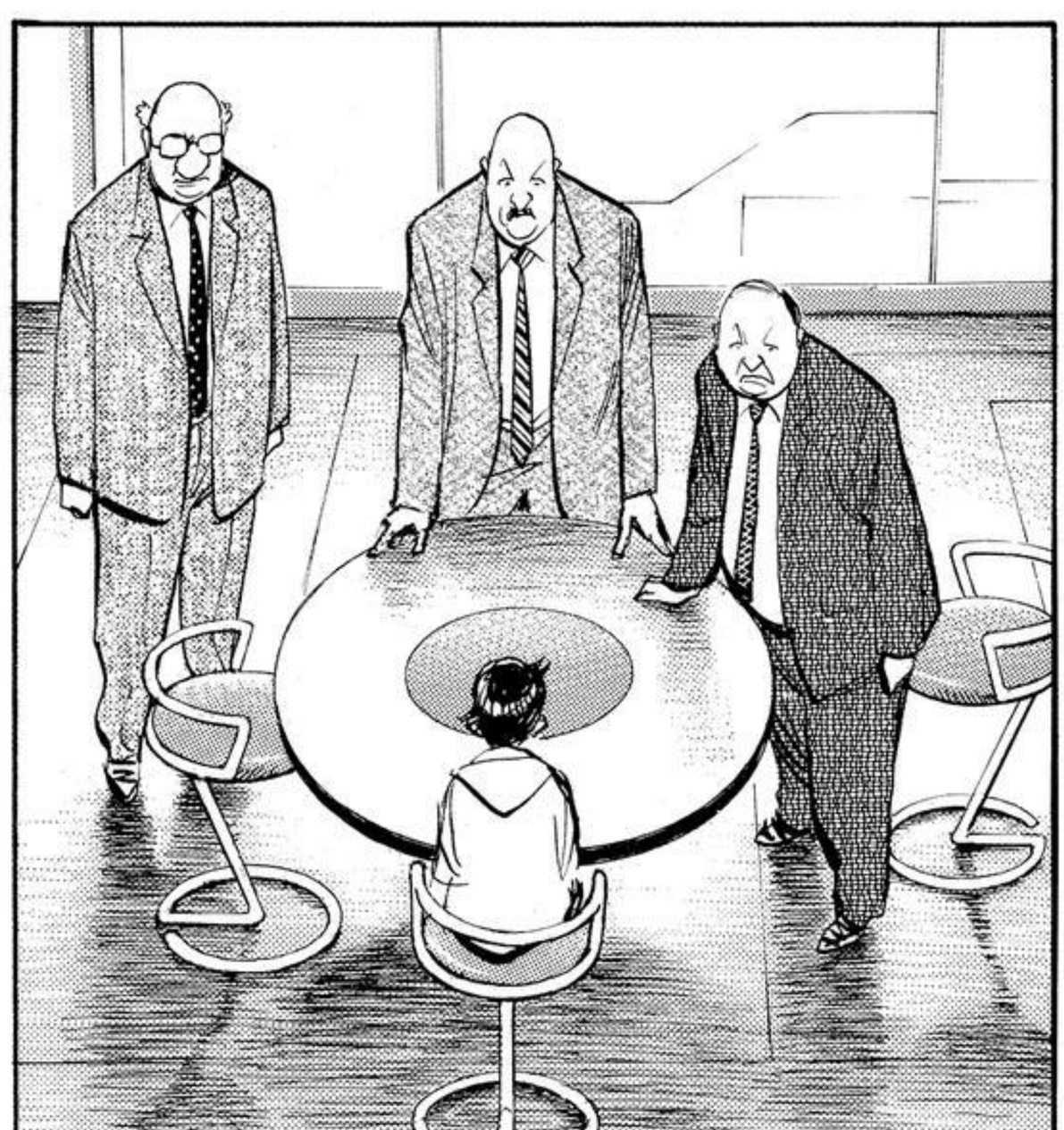

THAT'S RIGHT. THERE WAS ONCE A LEGENDARY SAGE OF THE SANDS, WHO TAUGHT THE ANCIENT UZBEK KING THE SECRETS OF LIFE AND THEN RETURNED TO SAND. HIS NAME WAS GOJI.

AND ABULLAH CREATED PLUTO.
GOJI CREATED BORA AS PLANNED.



PLUTO INHERITED ABULLAH'S HATRED.

AND HE HATED US-- THE WORLD'S SEVEN MOST ADVANCED ROBOTS...

AN ALERT WON'T HELP. THERE'S NOWHERE TO HIDE...

WE'VE GOT TO SEND OUT A WORLD-WIDE ALERT!!

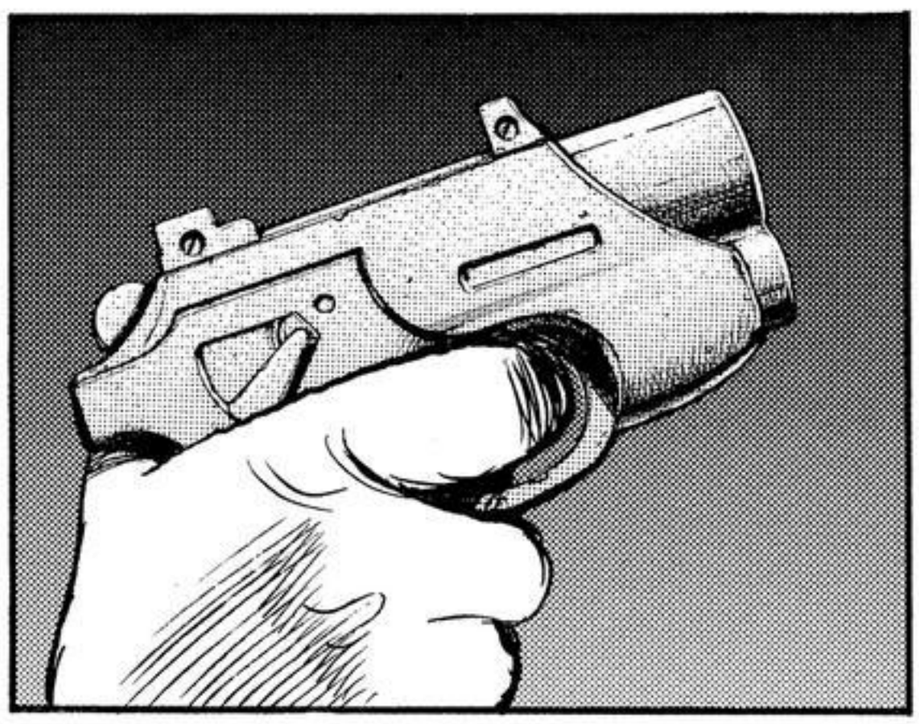
YOU MEAN HE BECAME A WEAPON OF MASS DESTRUC-TION, RIGHT?

B... BUT WHAT ABOUT BORA ...?

HE WAS NO LONGER SUITED TO THE ORIGINAL GREENIFI-CATION PROJECT.

WHAT...?

THE WHOLE PLANET IS GOING TO BLOW UP...



THIS IS NO TIME TO KILL YOURSELF.

THAT'S ENOUGH, YOUR MAJESTY.

!!

TAKE A LOOK AT THIS, SIR.

DON'T TRY AND STOP ME, ABULLAH. MY PALACE IS GOING UP IN FLAMES...

OH MY...

WHAT...

GRAAA

GRO
AAR
SO YOU'VE SUCCEEDED!!

THE FIVE THAT DESTROYED MY ROBOT ARMY!!
USE PLUTO TO KILL THEM ALL!!
AND THE TWO THAT HELPED THE OCCUPATION ARMY ENFORCE THEIR SO-CALLED "PEACE"...

PLUTO...

KILL ALL SEVEN OF THOSE CURSED ROBOTS ...!!

THEY'RE NOT, SIR.

UNFOR-TUNATELY, THEY'RE BEYOND MY REACH...

AND I'LL TAKE CARE OF THE BORA SURVEY GROUP TOO.
LEAVE IT TO ME, YOUR MAJESTY ...

...THAT EVIL PRESIDENT AND HIS BLASTED MOTHER COMPUTER!!
AH, BUT THE GREATEST VILLAIN IN ALL THIS IS THRACIA ...

I CAN TAKE CARE OF ALL OF THEM...

MUR MUR MUR MUR

THIS WAS ALL ABULLAH'S PLAN...!!

MURMUR MURMUR

SILENCE IN THE COURT!

BAM BAM BAM

MURMUR MURMUR

SILENCE!!

HE HAS PLANTED A GIGANTIC BOMB-- DIRECTLY UNDER THRACIA!!

MURMUR MURMUR

AND NO ONE CAN ESCAPE FROM HIS PLAN.

MURMUR MURMUR

WHOOSH

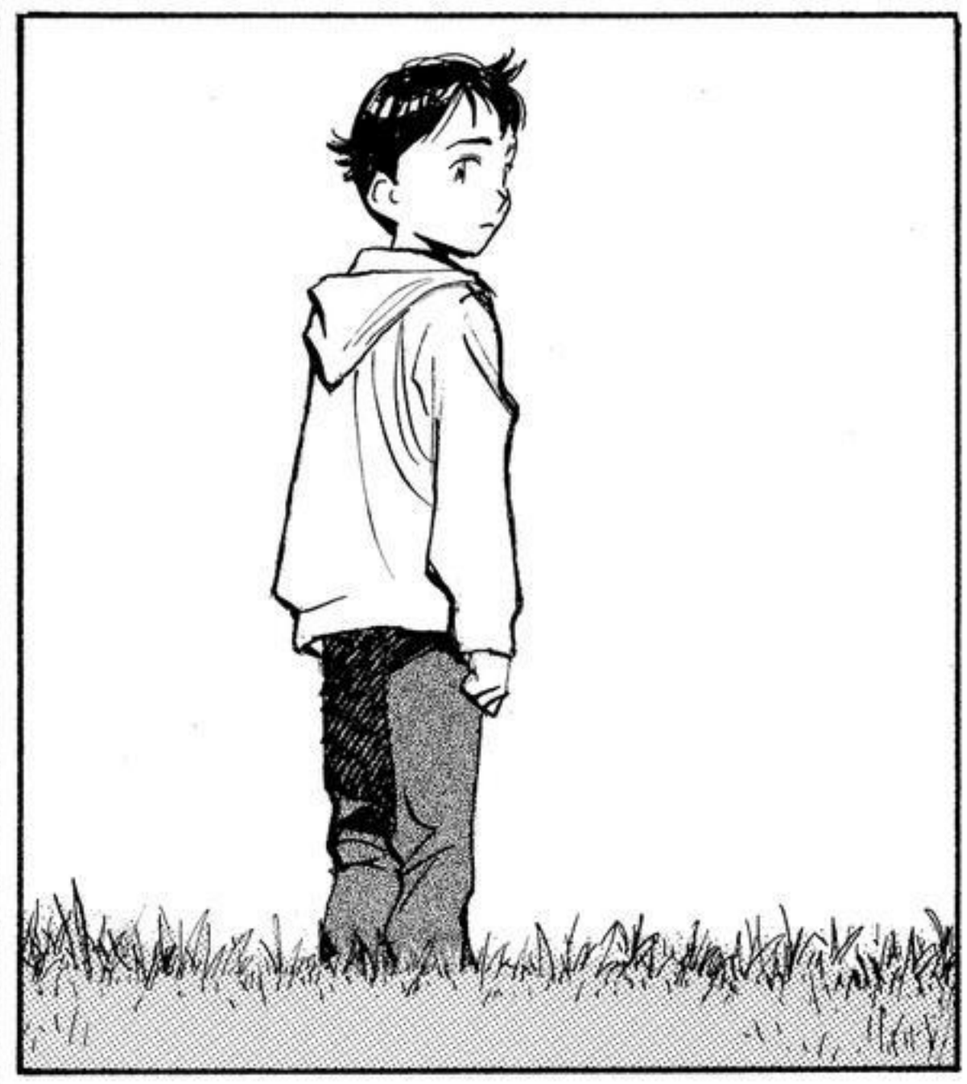
ROAAAR

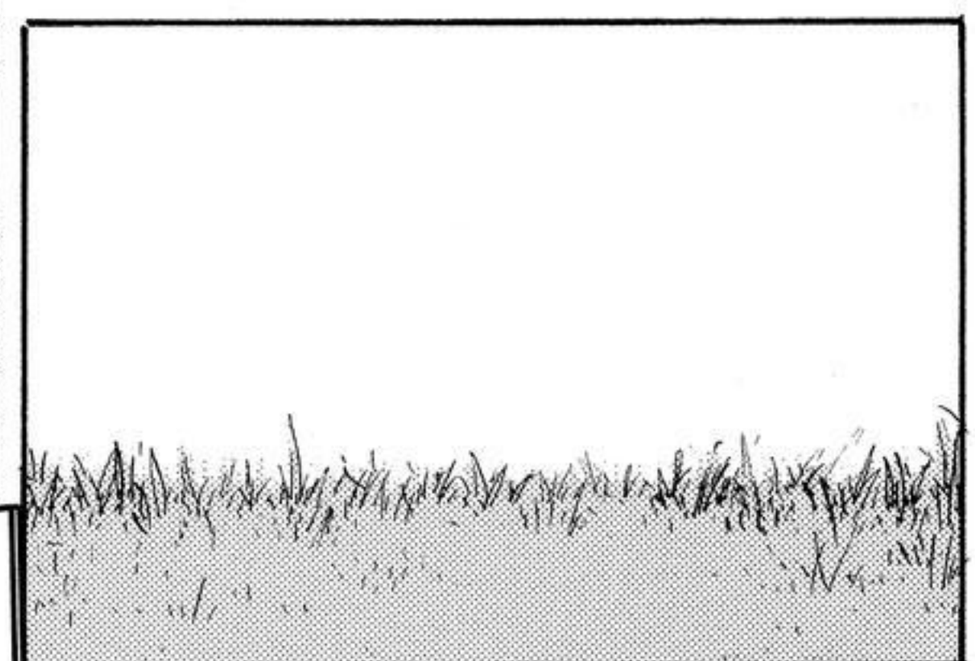
IT'S ABOUT TO START...

THE ATMOSPHERE'S CHANGING!

I'D BETTER GET GOING.

SEE YOU LATER, GESICHT...





FSHOOM

EDEN NATIONAL PARK,
UNITED STATES OF THRACIA

GROAAAH

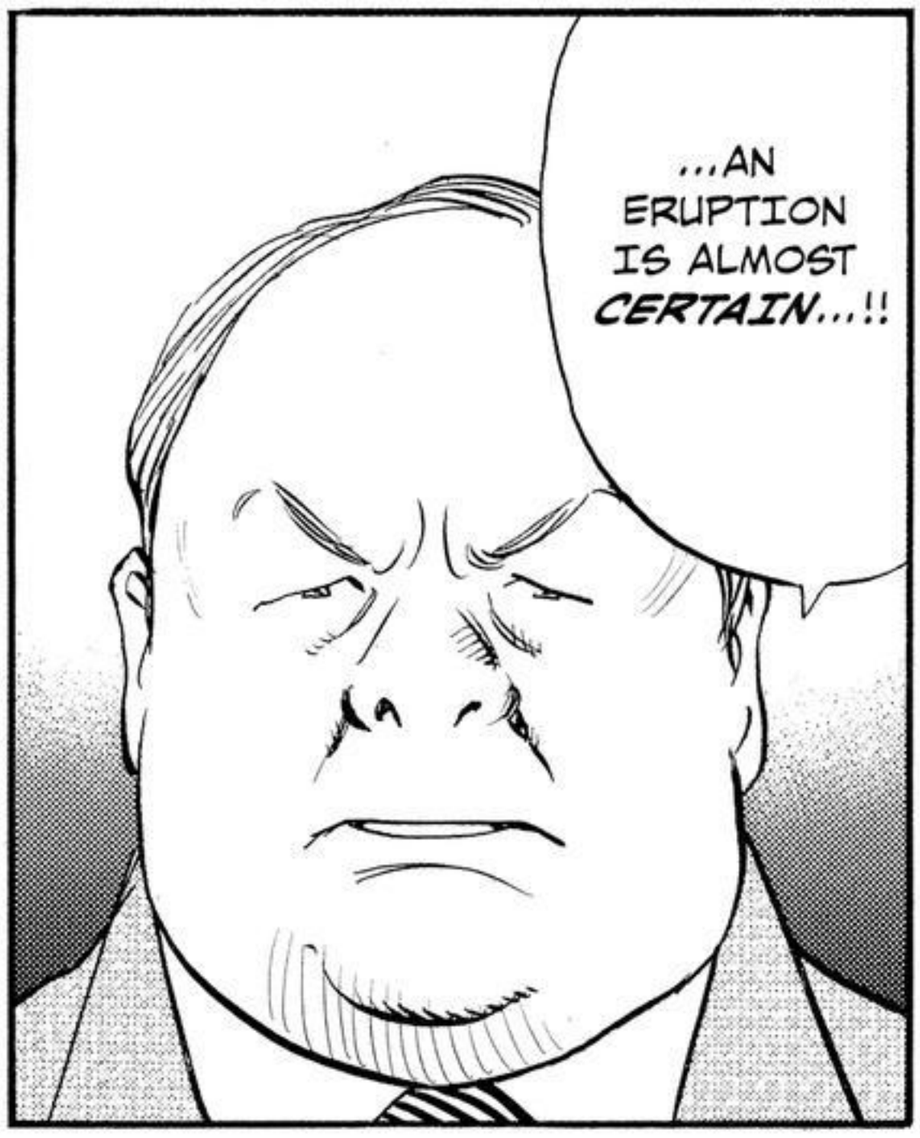
Act 61 DOOMSDAY

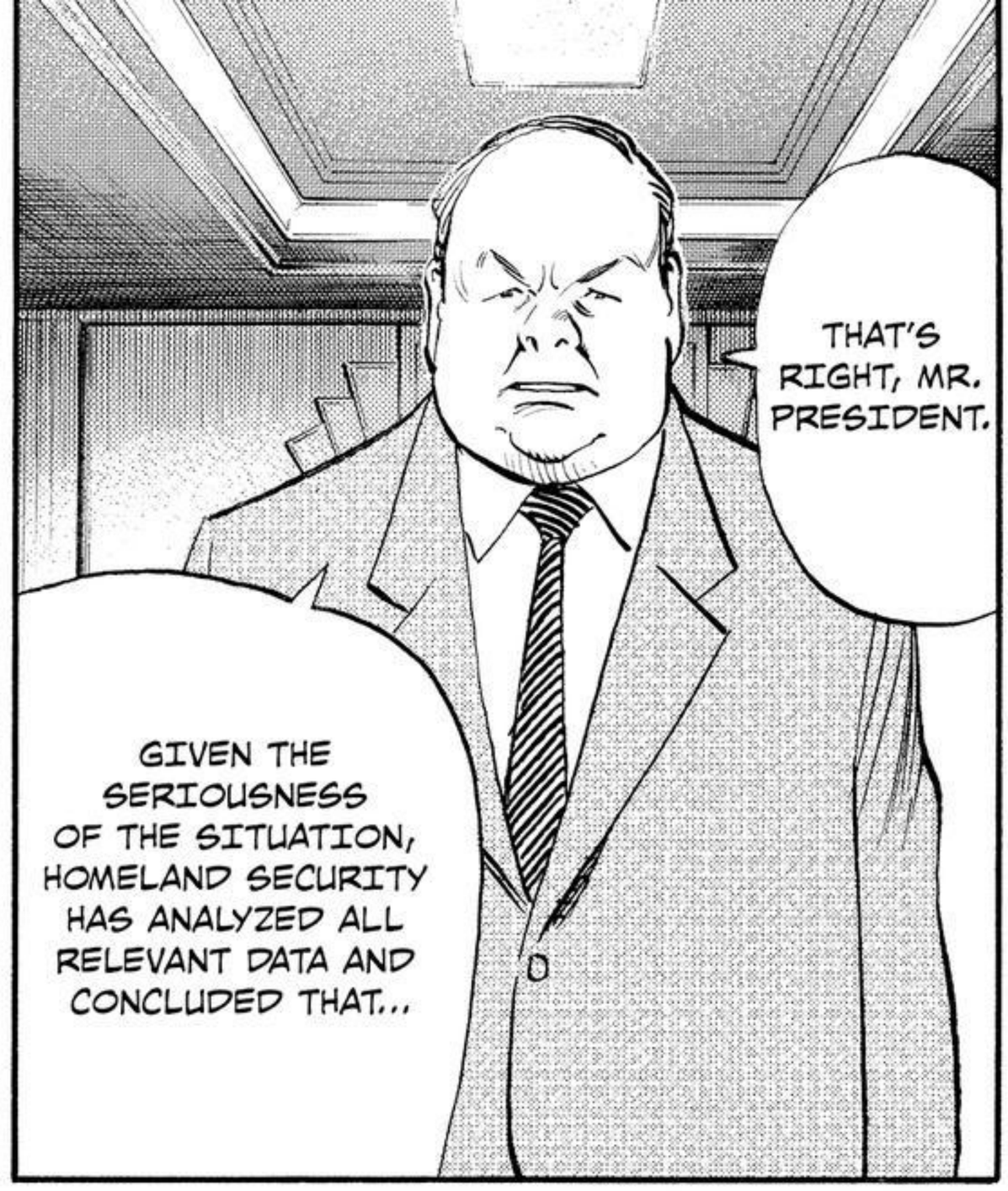
ZWMM

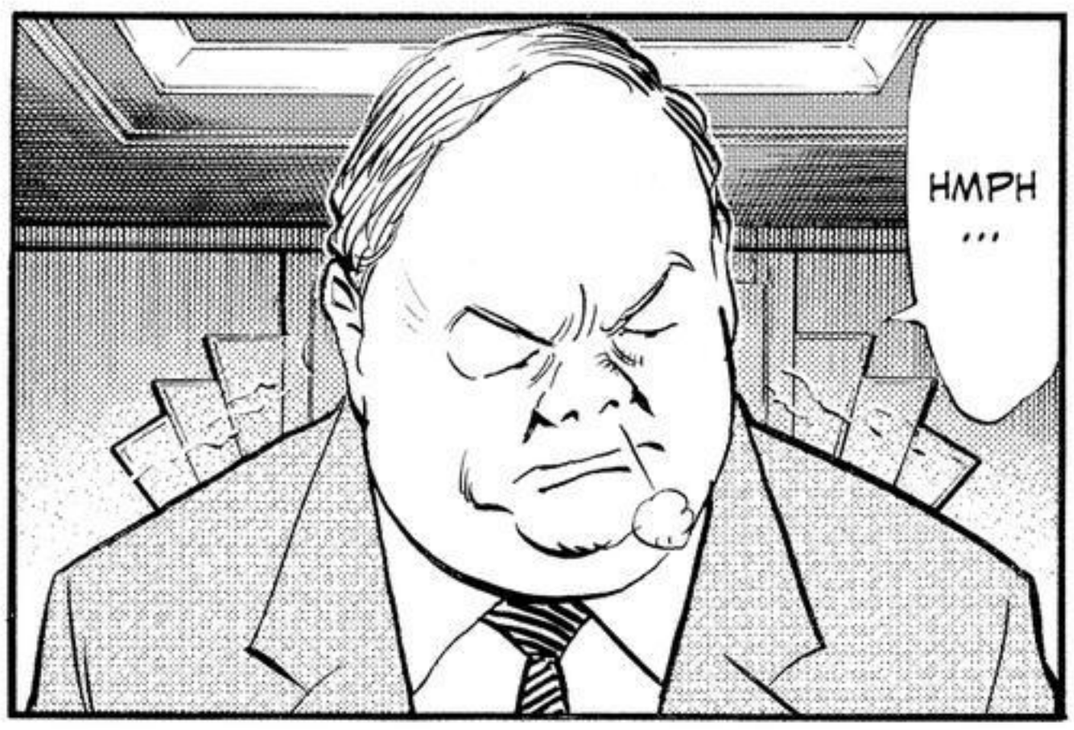
NEW WASHINGTON,
UNITED STATES OF THRACIA

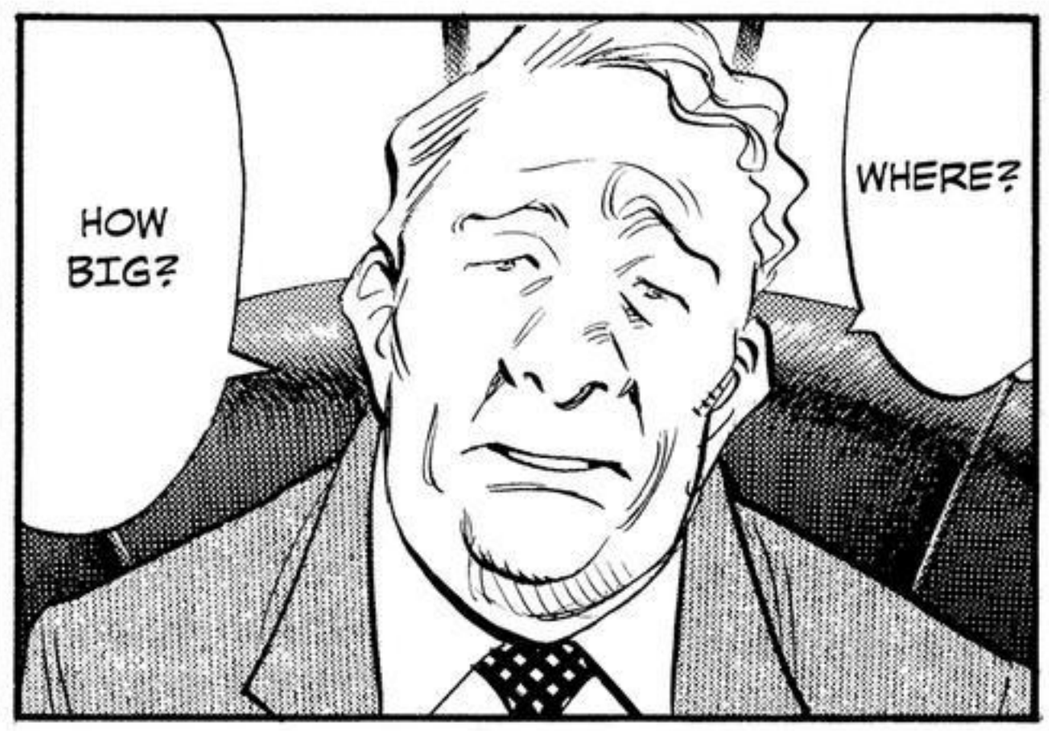
A HUGE ERUPTION, YOU SAY?

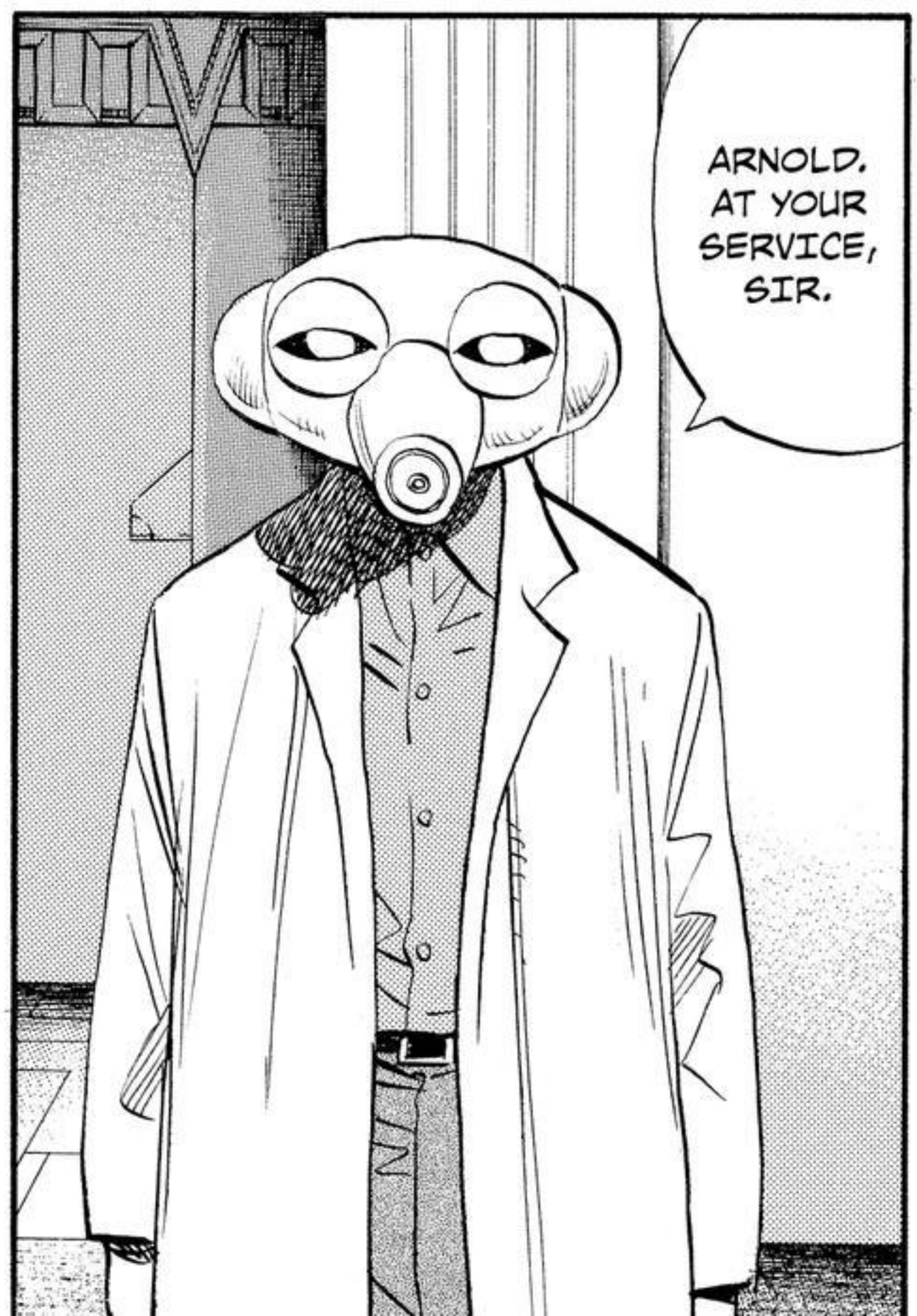
KLATTA KLATTA KLATTA


...AN ERUPTION IS ALMOST *CERTAIN*...!!

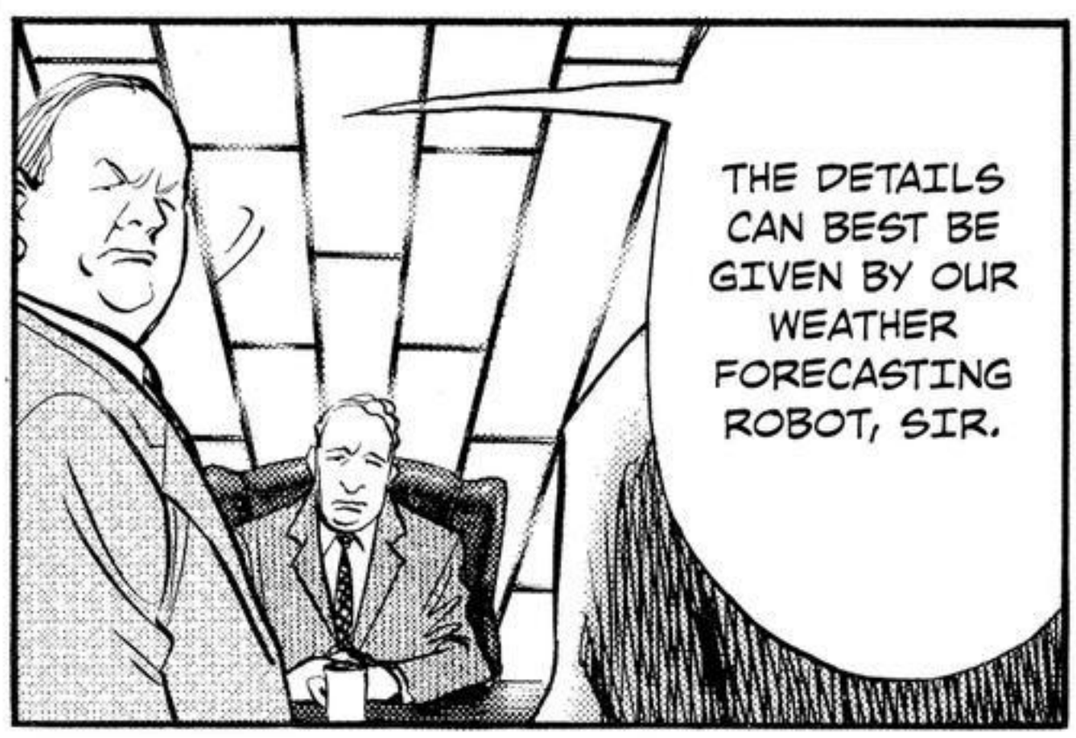

THAT'S RIGHT, MR. PRESIDENT.
GIVEN THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE SITUATION, HOMELAND SECURITY HAS ANALYZED ALL RELEVANT DATA AND CONCLUDED THAT...

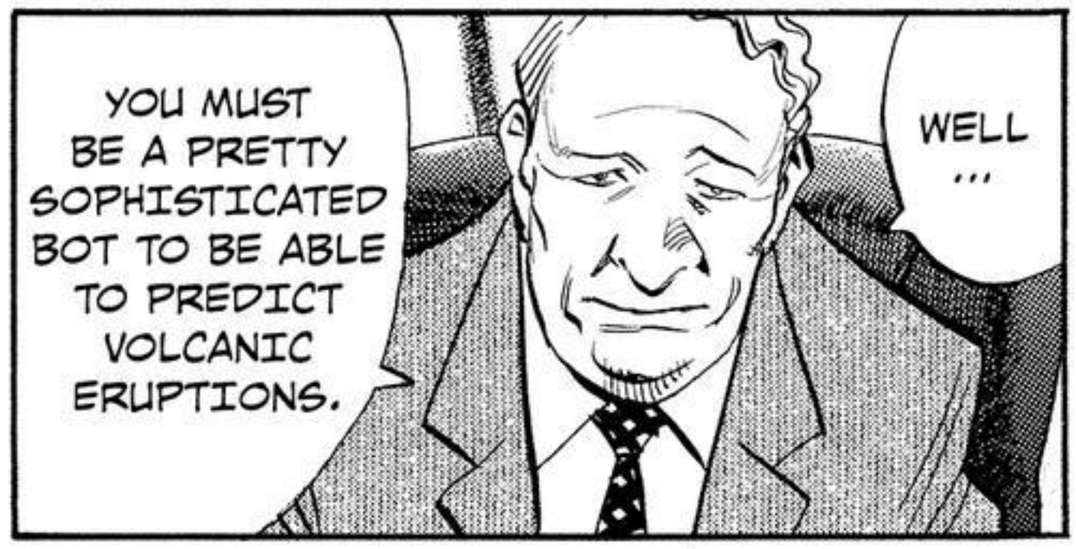

HMPH ...


HOW BIG?
WHERE?

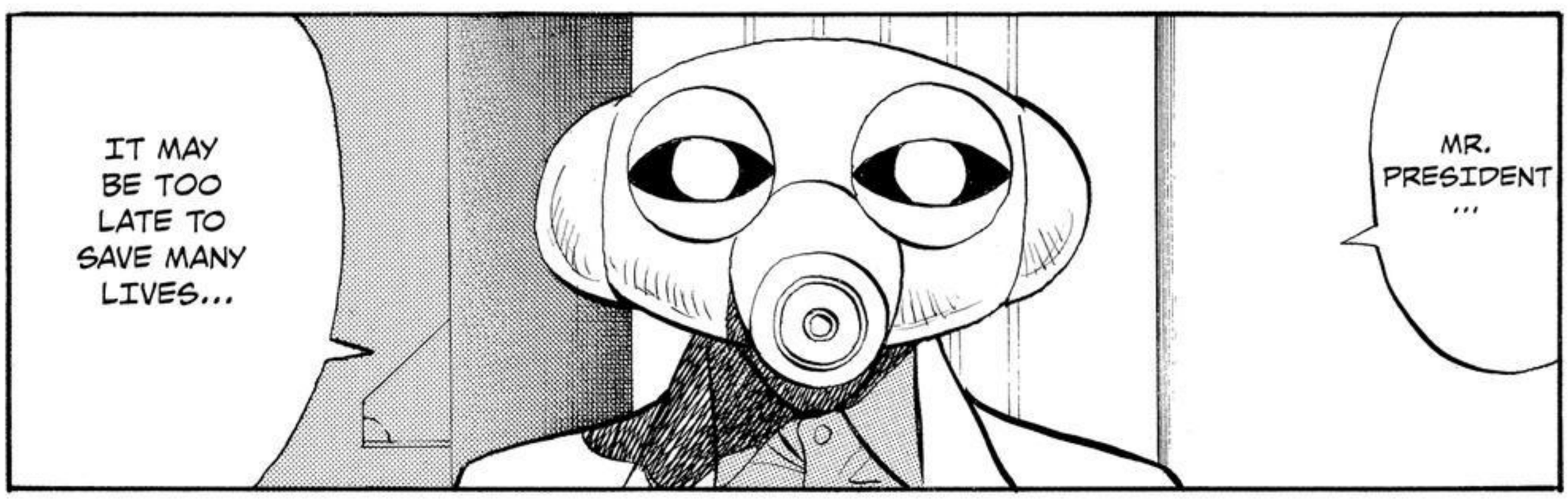

ARNOLD. AT YOUR SERVICE, SIR.

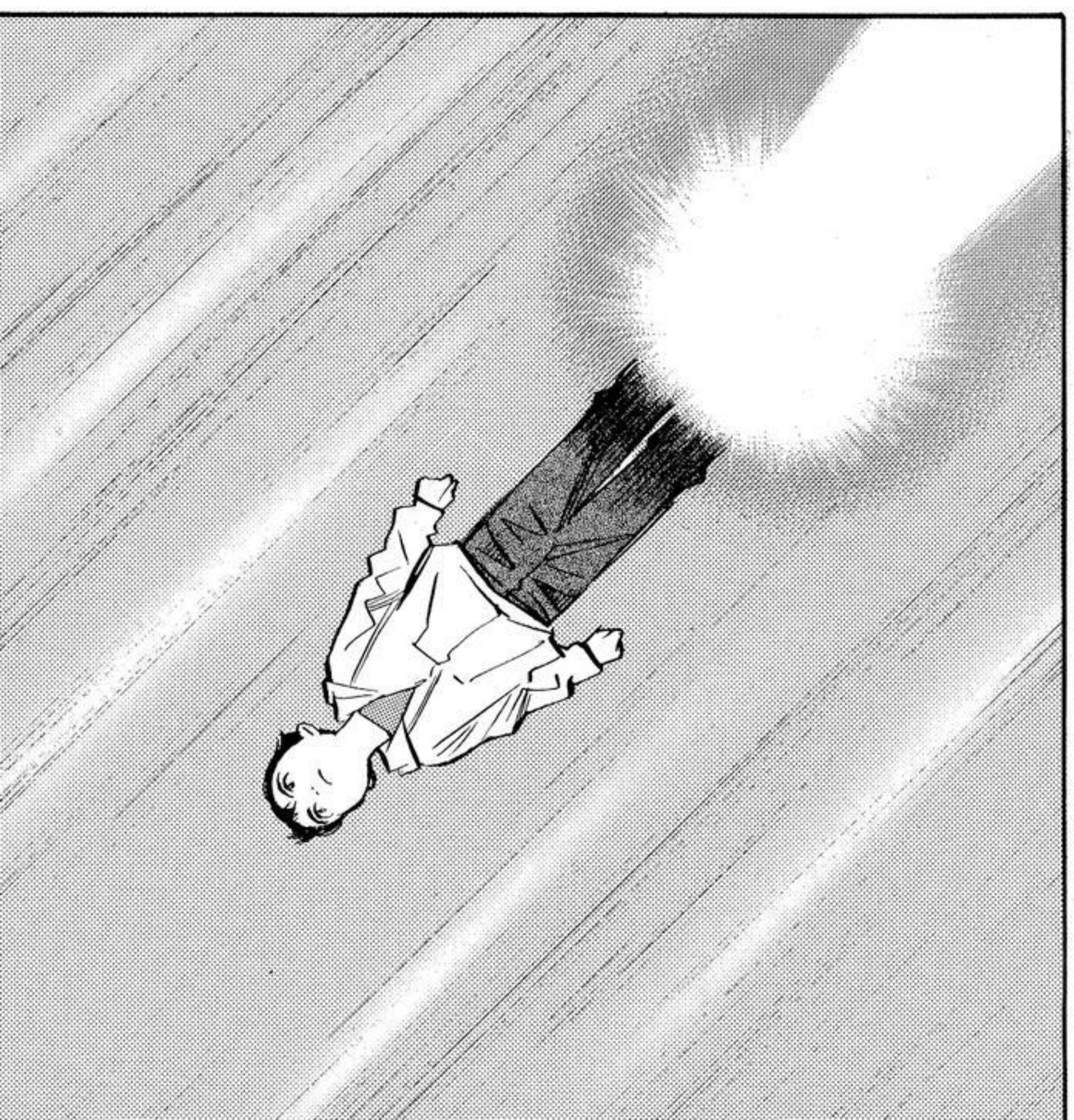
?


THE DETAILS CAN BEST BE GIVEN BY OUR WEATHER FORECASTING ROBOT, SIR.

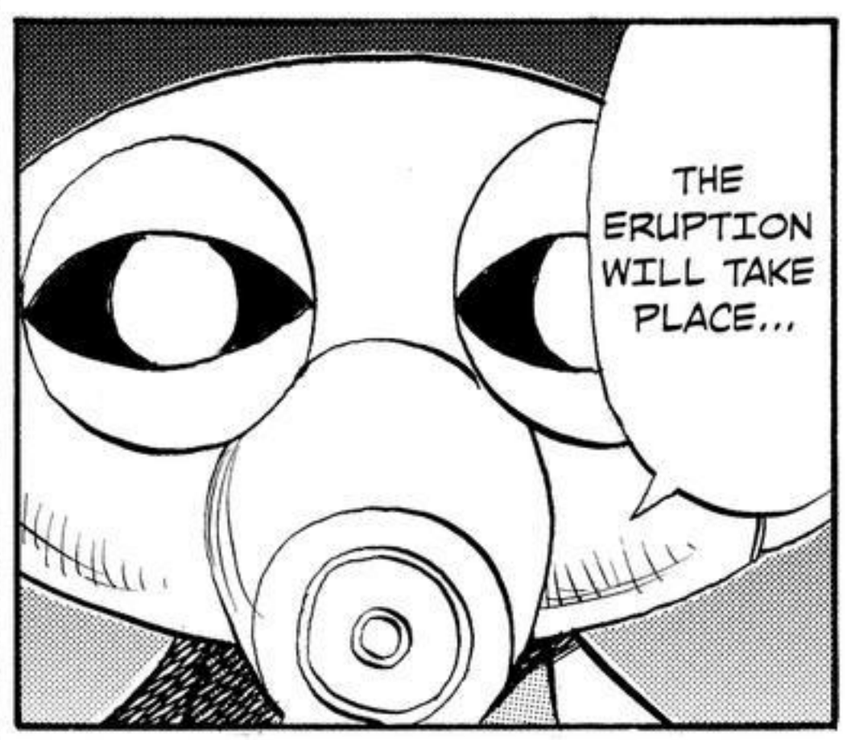

YOU MUST BE A PRETTY SOPHISTICATED BOT TO BE ABLE TO PREDICT VOLCANIC ERUPTIONS.
WELL ...

WITH YOUR HELP, ARNOLD, WE MAY BE ABLE TO SAVE MANY LIVES.


IT MAY BE TOO LATE TO SAVE MANY LIVES...
MR. PRESIDENT ...

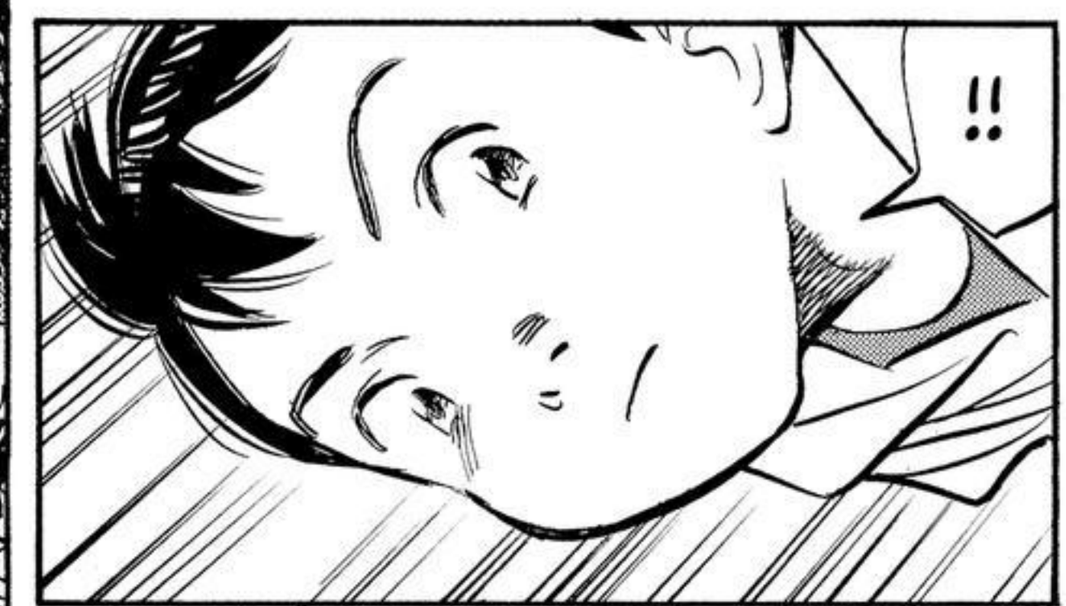


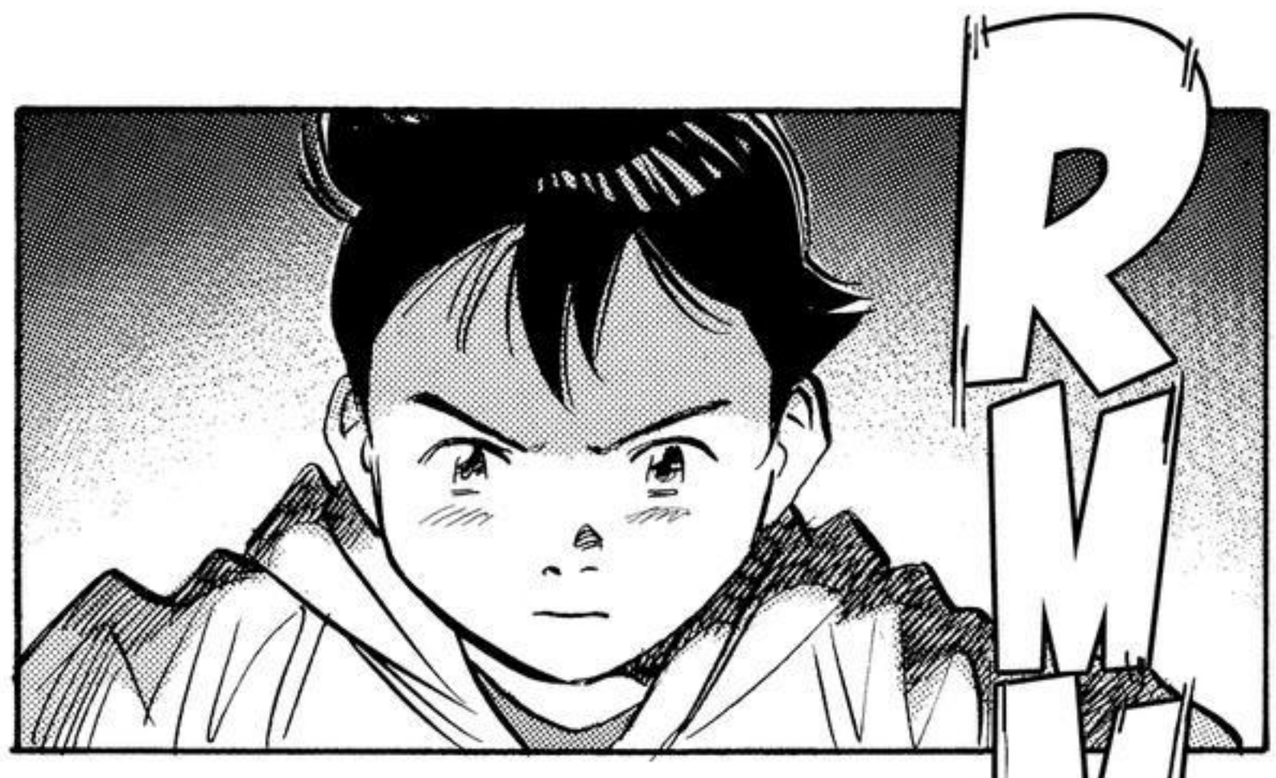
...?


THE ERUPTION WILL TAKE PLACE...

...IN EDEN NATIONAL PARK.

4

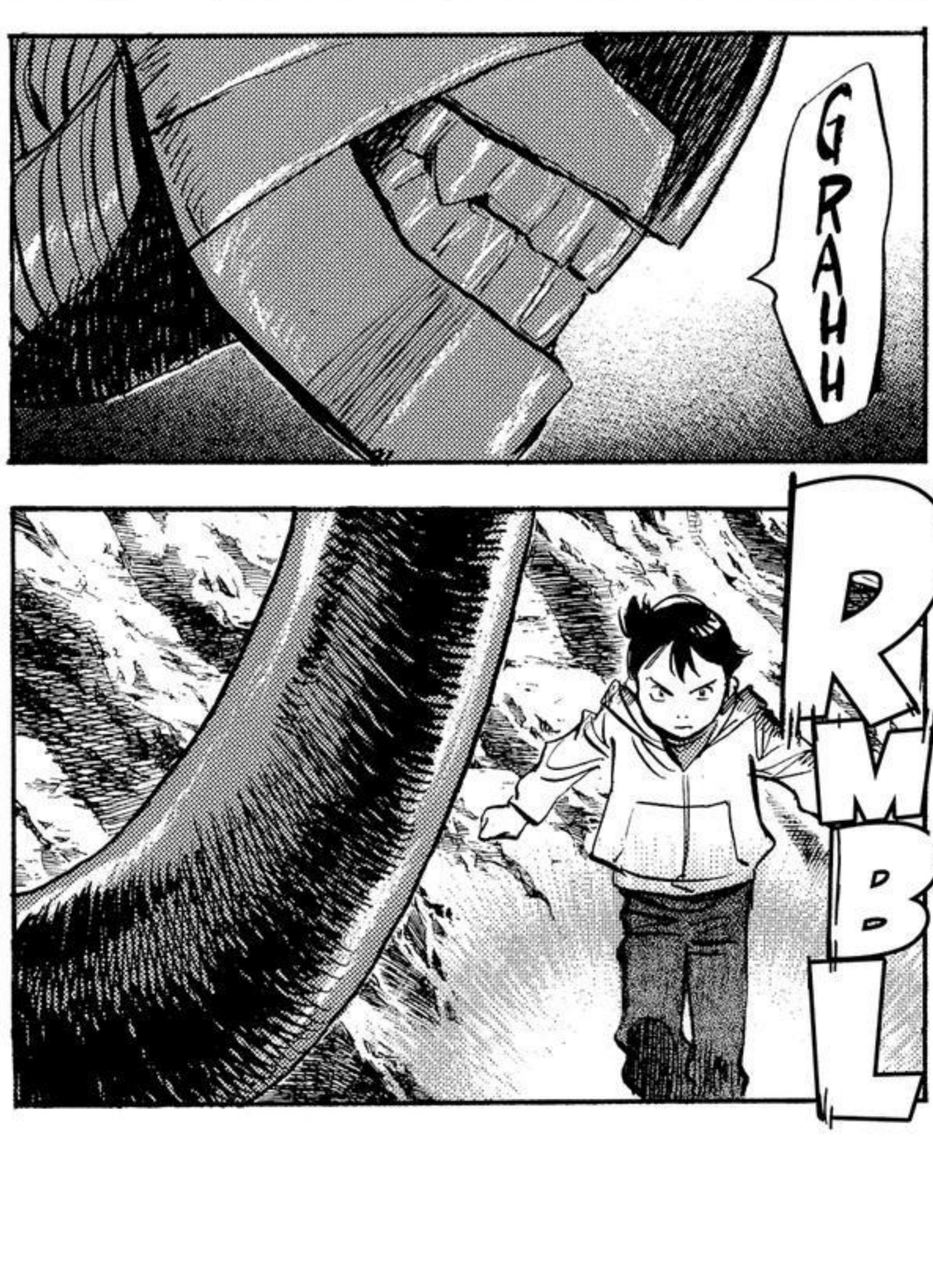




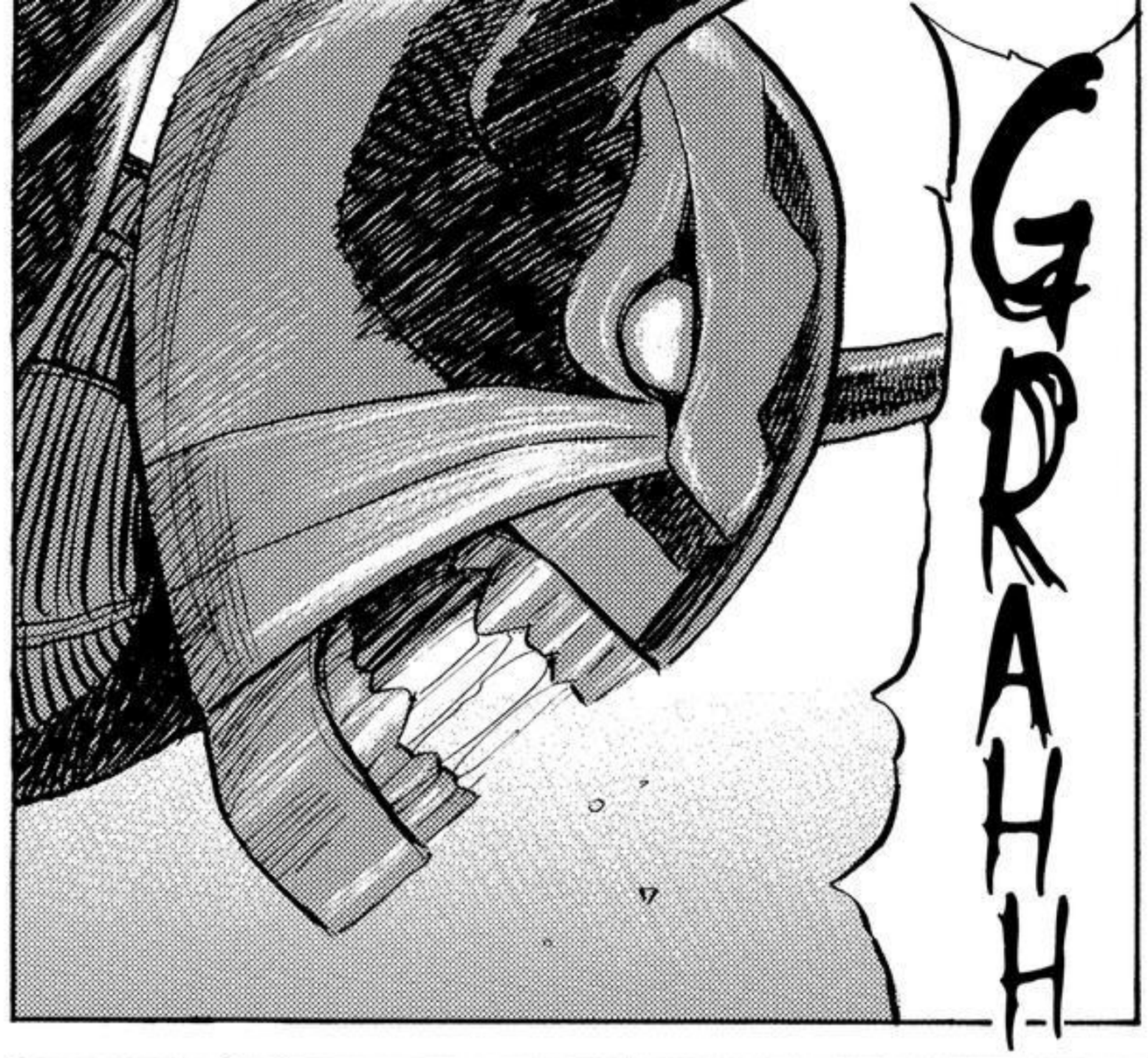
RMBL

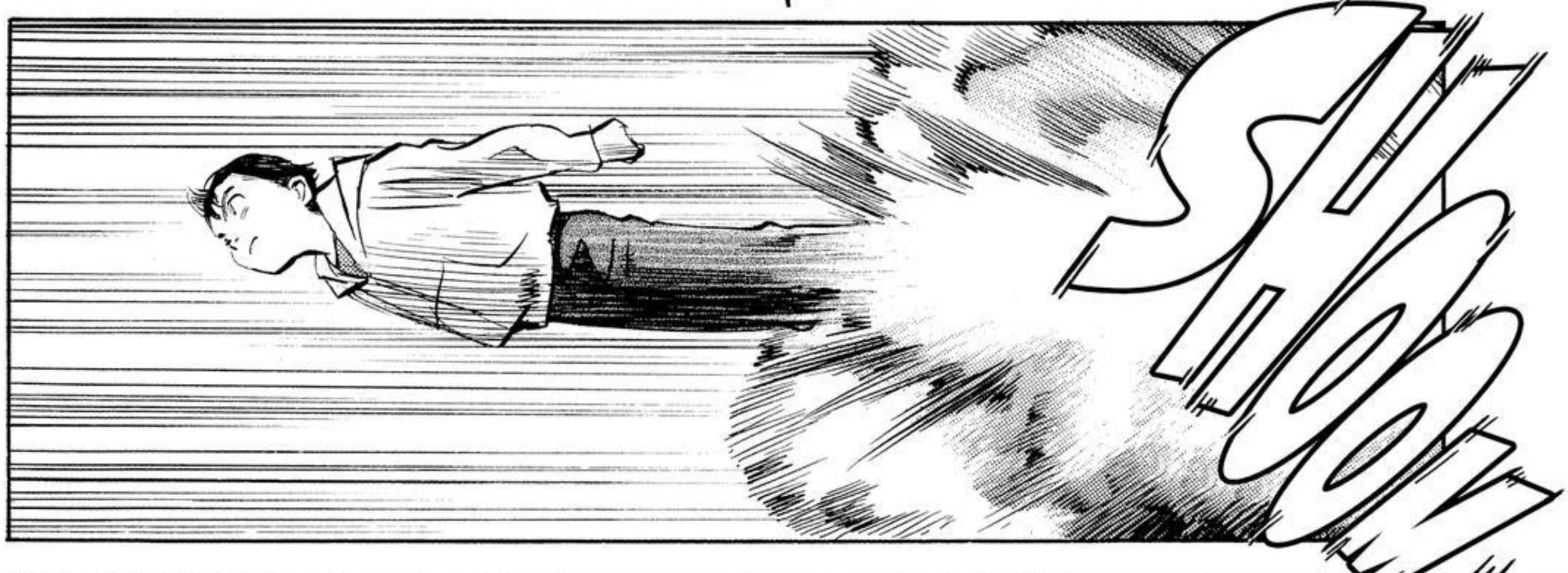
RMBL

PLUTO.


GRAHH
RMBL

GROAR
Act 61
DOOMSDAY


GRAHH


SHOOT

BRI

EDEN NATIONAL PARK DOES NOT HAVE AN ACTUAL VOLCANIC CRATER.

THIS POOL CONTAINS 3,000 CUBIC KILOMETERS OF MAGMA THAT REGULARLY RISES AND FALLS, DEPENDING ON VARIOUS HYDROTHERMAL CONDITIONS.

HOWEVER, THERE IS A HUGE POOL OF MAGMA EIGHT KILOMETERS BELOW THE SURFACE.

APPROXI-MATELY ONCE EVERY 5,000 YEARS, SIR.

WHAT'S THE NORMAL CYCLE OF ERUPTIONS IN EDEN PARK?

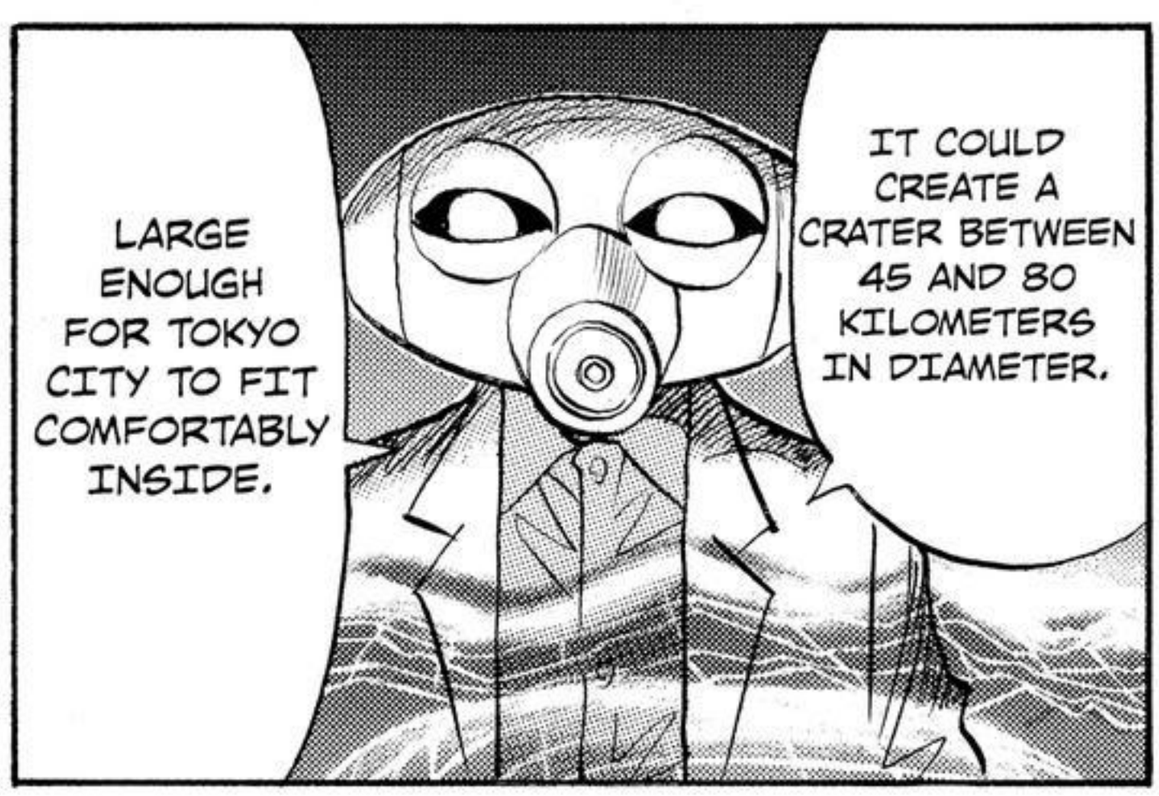
IT IS RISING.

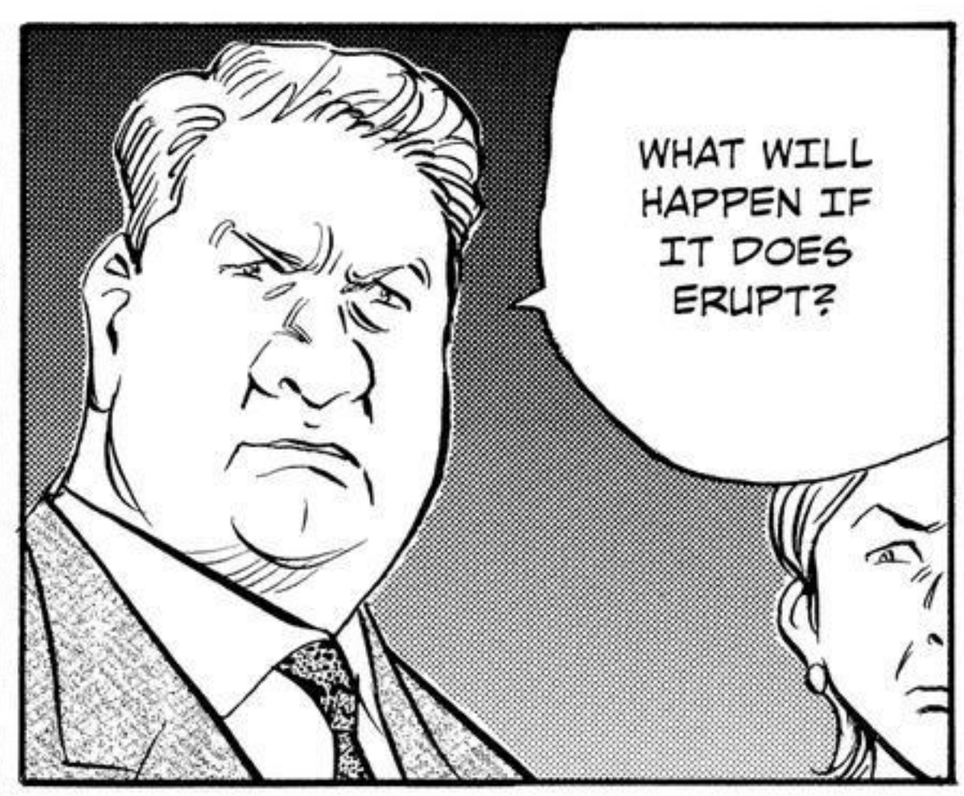
AND RIGHT NOW?

...

AND WHEN WAS THE LAST ERUPTION?

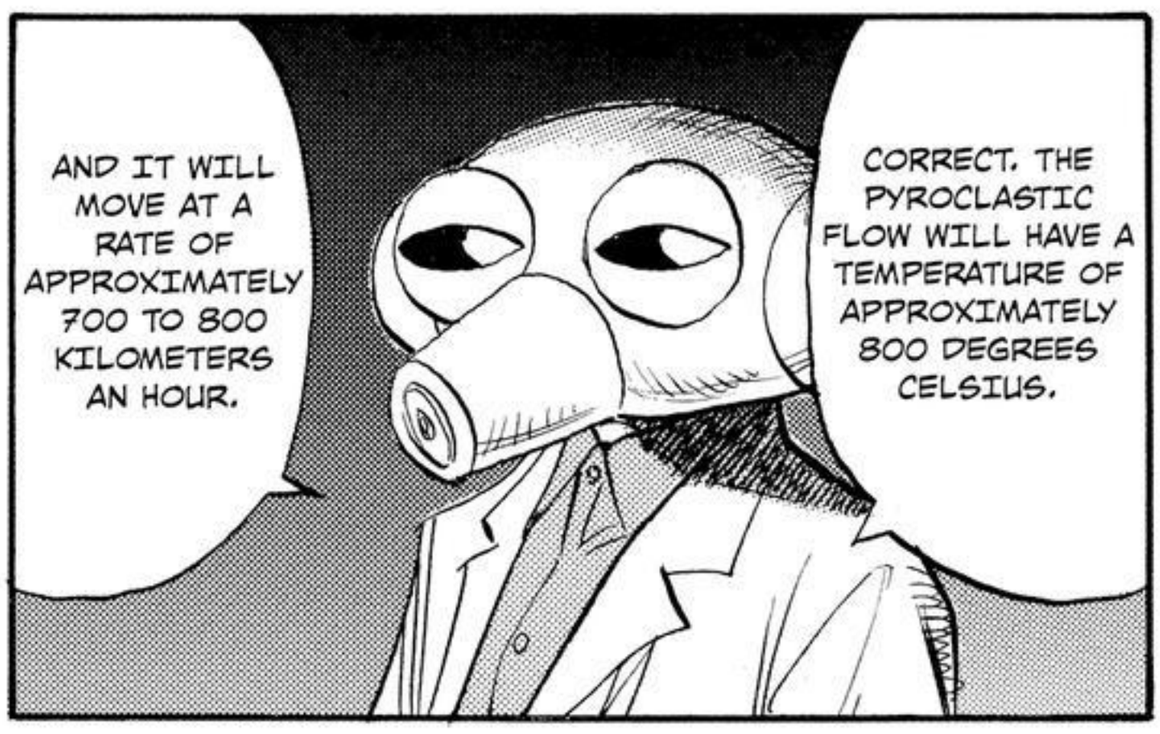
IT WAS 5,200 YEARS AGO.

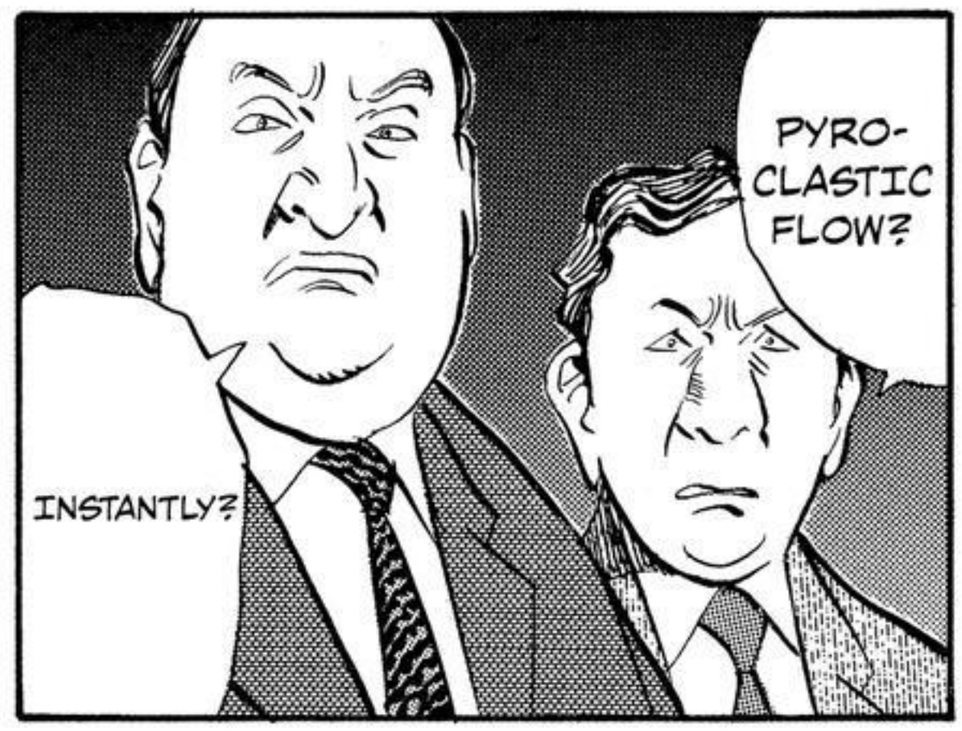

LARGE ENOUGH FOR TOKYO CITY TO FIT COMFORTABLY INSIDE.
IT COULD CREATE A CRATER BETWEEN 45 AND 80 KILOMETERS IN DIAMETER.

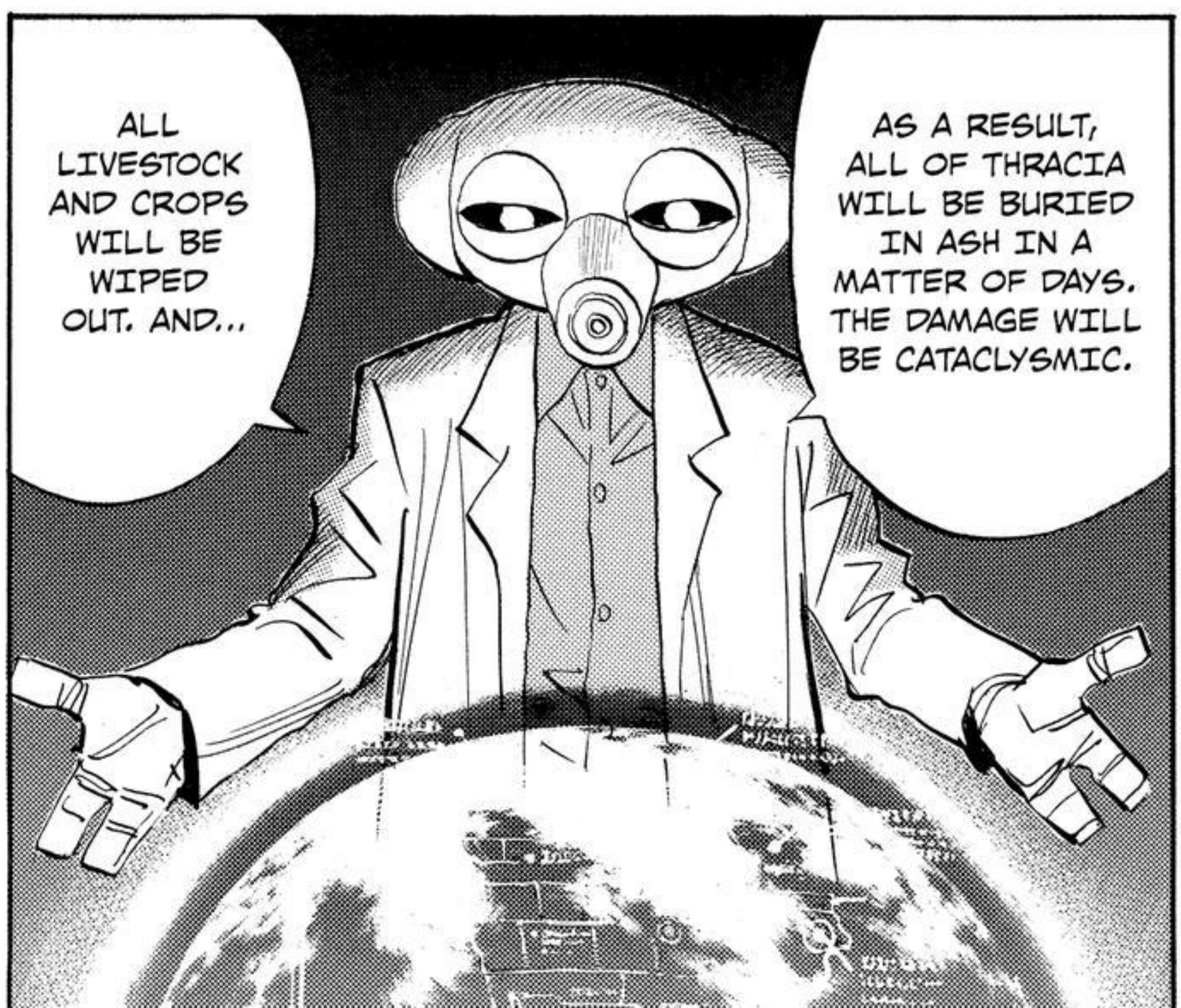

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF IT DOES ERUPT?

IN THE WORST CASE, IT WILL EJECT 100 MILLION TONS OF CINDER AND ASH PER HOUR.

ALL THE GROUND IN A 100 KILOMETER RADIUS WILL BE INSTANTLY COVERED BY THE PYROCLASTIC FLOW.







THE EARTH WILL BE *DESTROYED.*

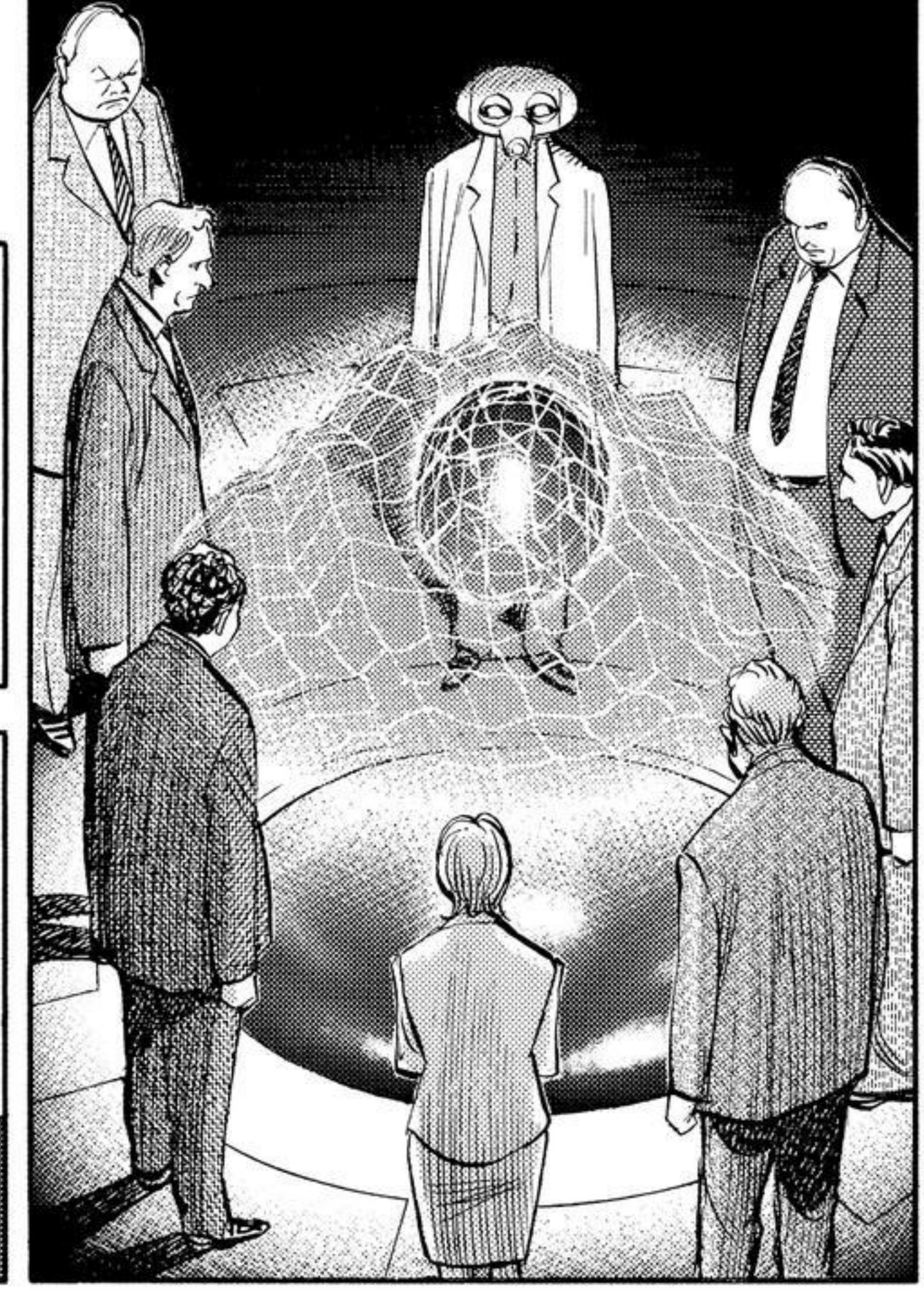
...IN APPROXI-MATELY ONE MONTH...

...CAUSING THE TEMPERATURE OF THE NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN HEMI-SPHERES TO DROP 20 DEGREES. THE ASH IN THE ATMOSPHERE WILL CLOG THE RESPIRATORY ORGANS OF EVERY LIVING THING, CAUSING ALMOST UNIVERSAL DEATH.

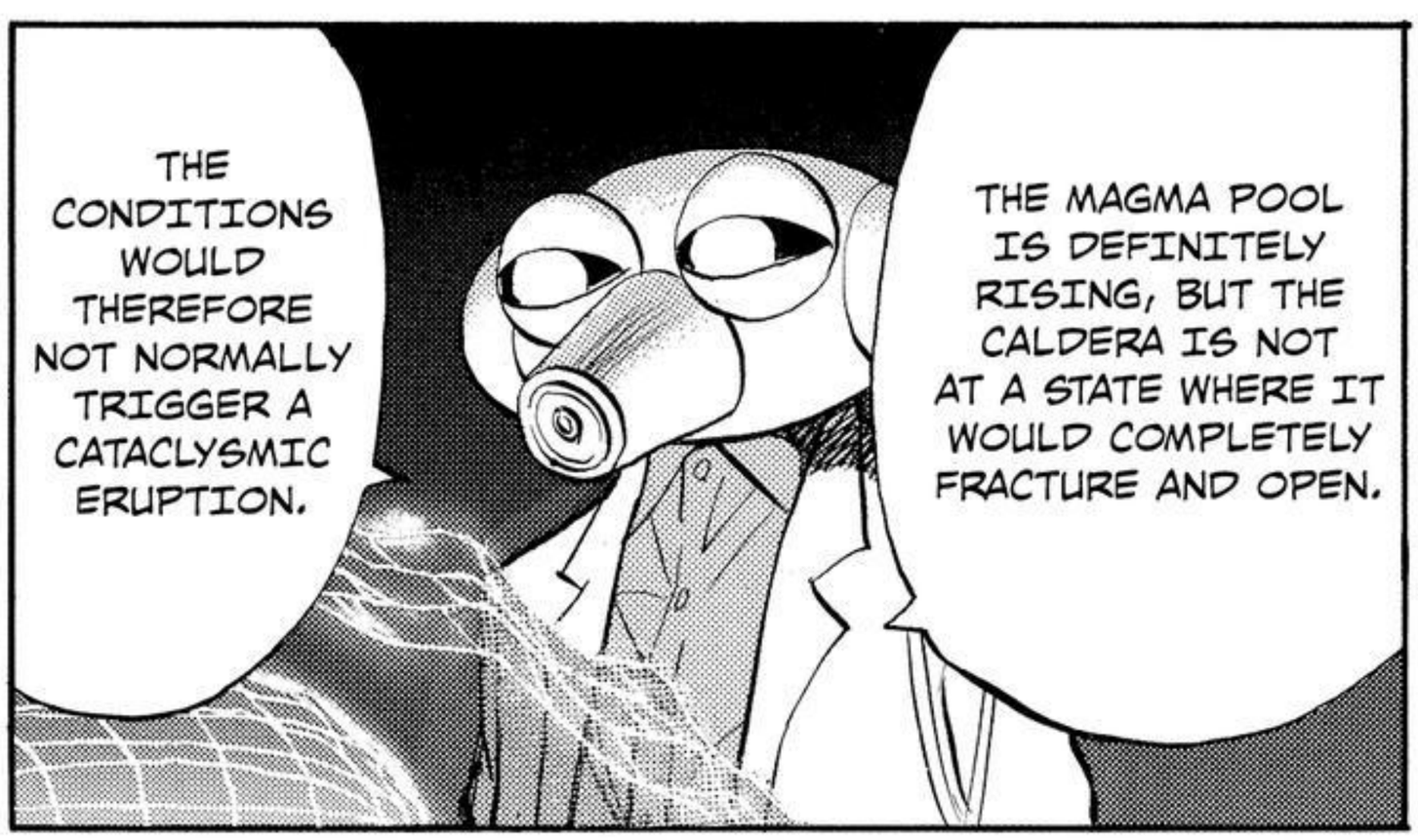
AND SEVERAL HUNDRED MILLION TONS OF SULFUR DIOXIDE WILL BLOCK OUT THE SUN...

THE REASON IS SIMPLE. THE EJECTED VOLCANIC ASH WILL IMMEDIATELY RISE 50 KILOMETERS INTO THE STRATOSPHERE.

SO WHAT ARE WE LOOKING AT HERE, ARNOLD? YOU THINK THIS'LL BE A WORST-CASE SCENARIO?



NORMALLY, THIS SHOULDN'T HAPPEN.
UNDER NORMAL CIRCUM-STANCES, NO...

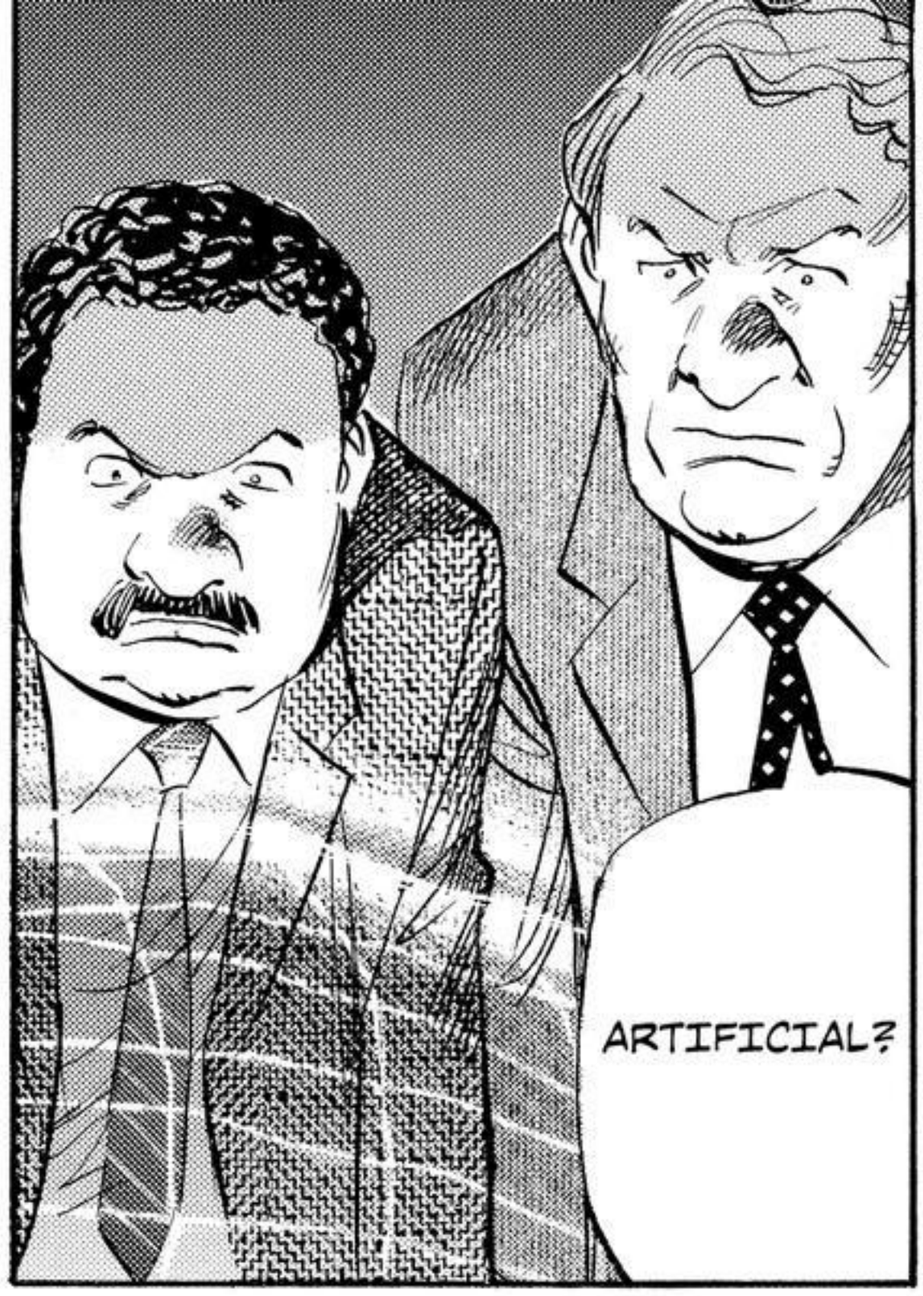

THE CONDITIONS WOULD THEREFORE NOT NORMALLY TRIGGER A CATACLYSMIC ERUPTION.
THE MAGMA POOL IS DEFINITELY RISING, BUT THE CALDERA IS NOT AT A STATE WHERE IT WOULD COMPLETELY FRACTURE AND OPEN.

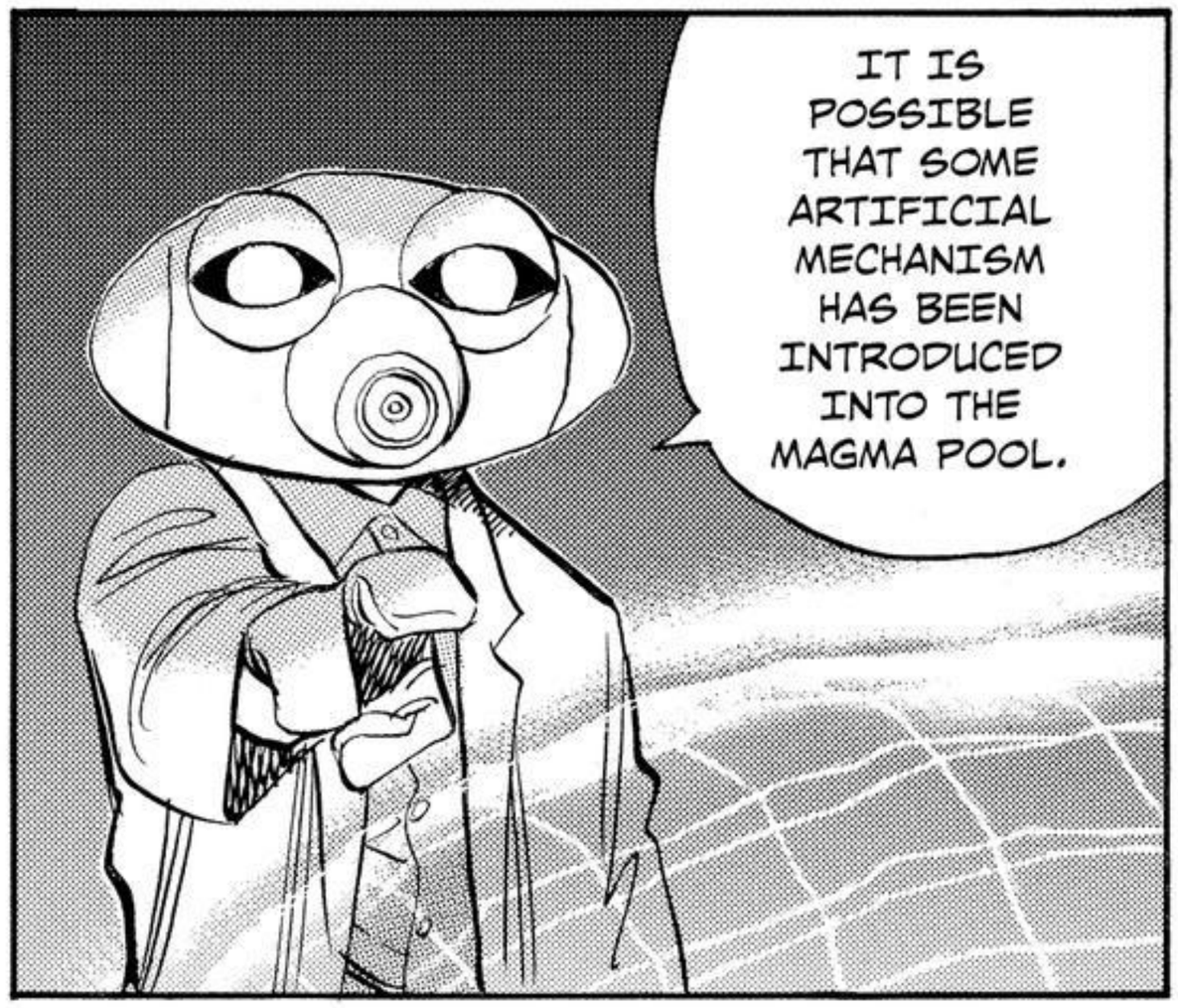
HUH?!

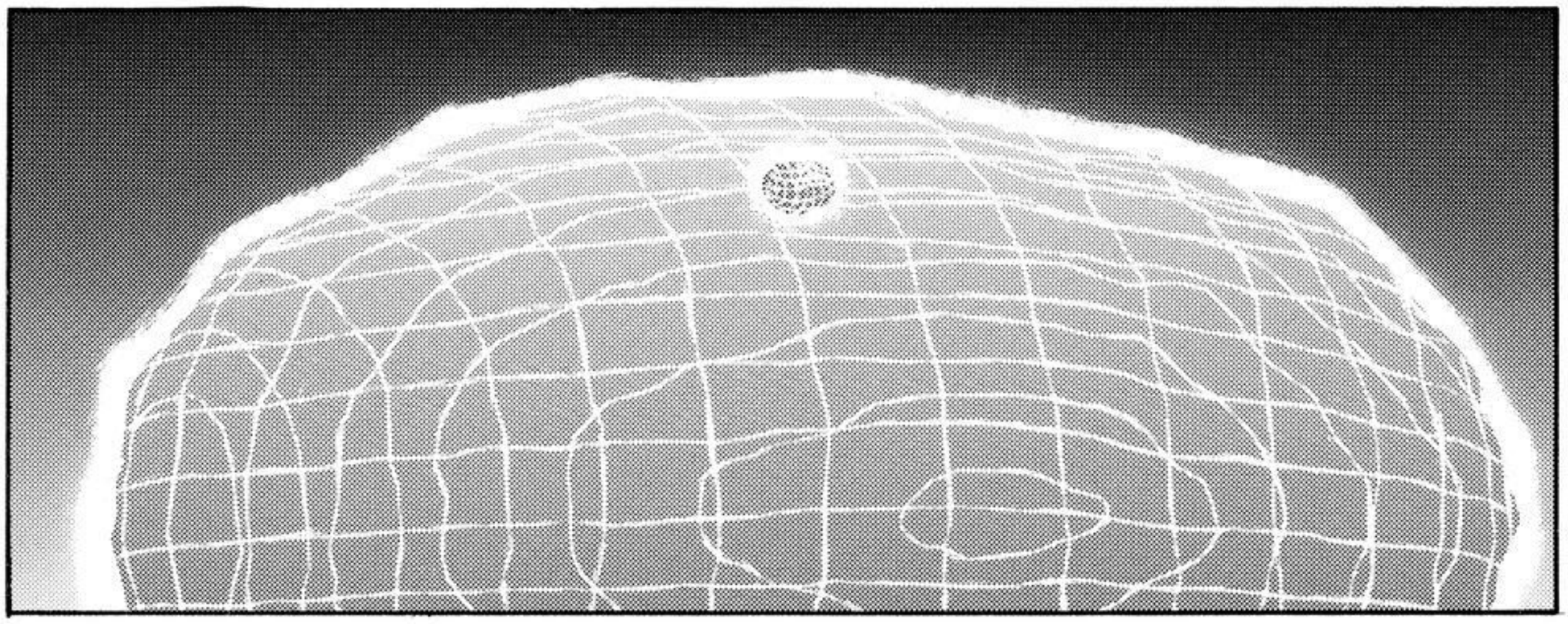
THERE IS ONE UNFORTUNATE POSSIBILITY ...

HOW-EVER ...

YEAH, WHY ALL THE DOOMSDAY TALK?
GEEZ, YOU HAD US SCARED!!


ARTIFICIAL?


IT IS POSSIBLE THAT SOME ARTIFICIAL MECHANISM HAS BEEN INTRODUCED INTO THE MAGMA POOL.

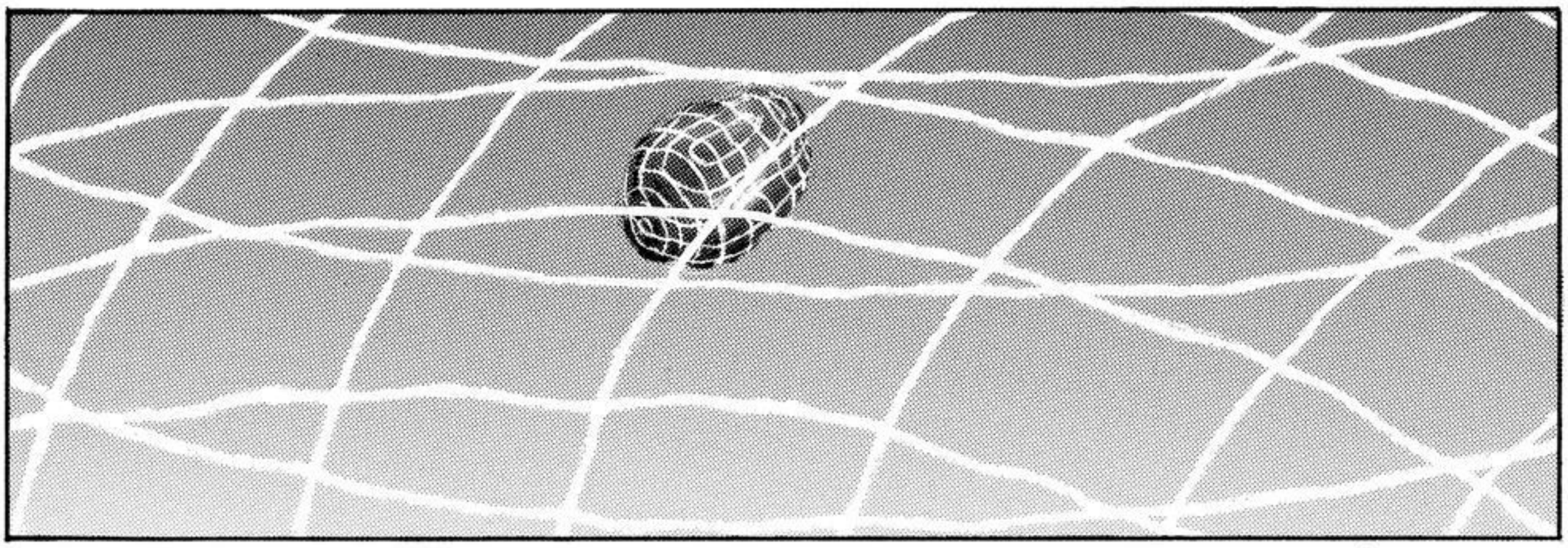


...HAPPENED TO BE AN ANTIPROTON BOMB...
IF, FOR EXAMPLE, THIS THING...

WHAT'S *THAT...?*

IT'S SOMETHING OUR SATELLITE RADAR DETECTED.

AN ANTIPROTON BOMB?



BIG BANG

BOOOM

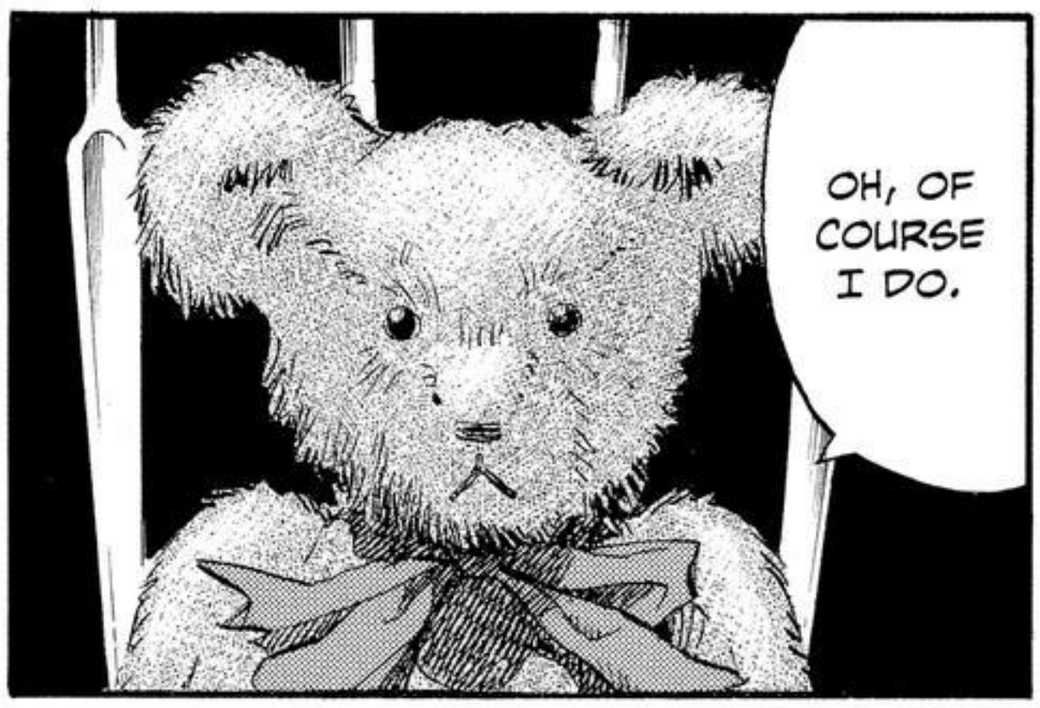
BAMBI
BAMBI

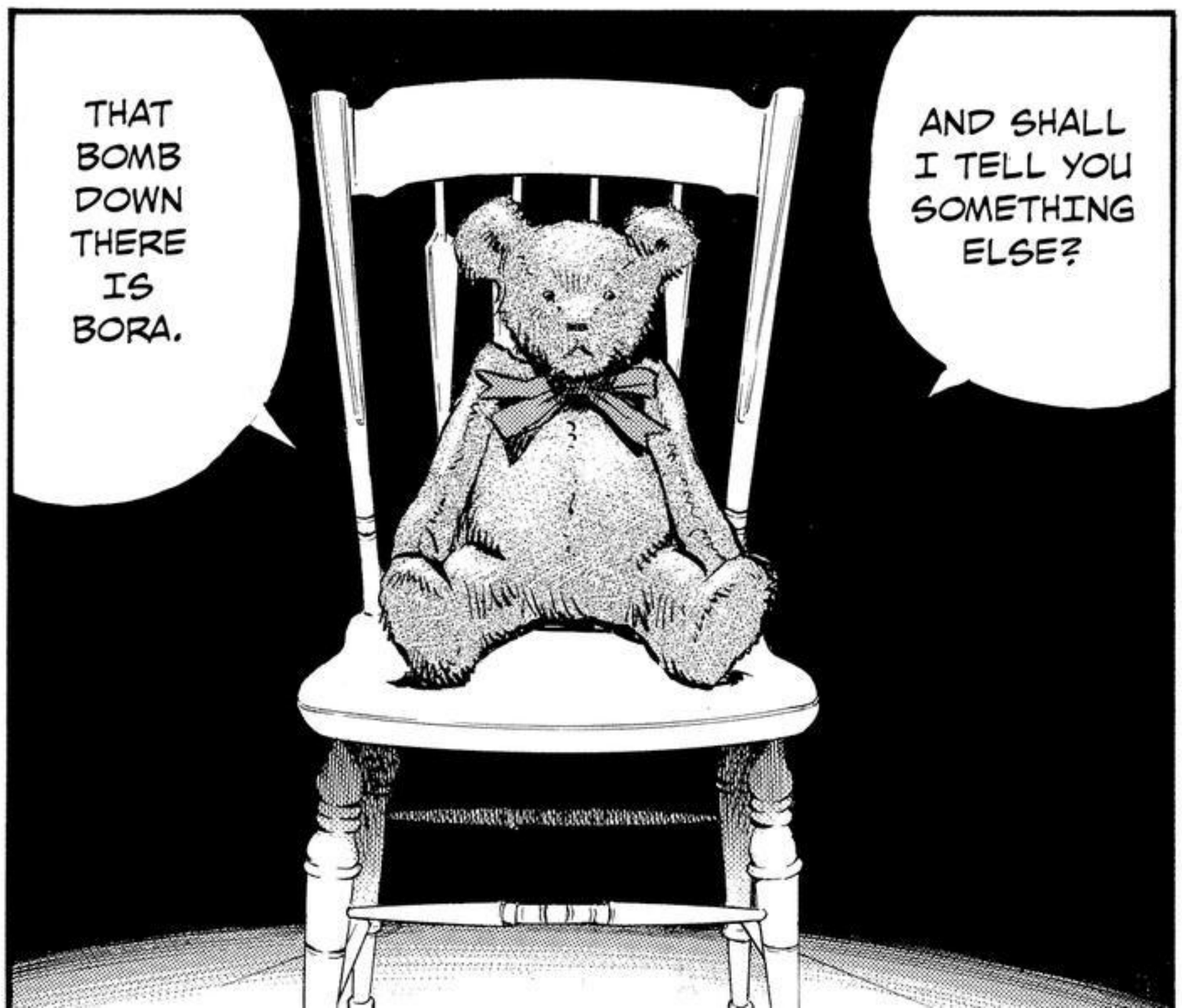
SHUNK

GRAHH

HELLO THERE. SOMETHING WRONG?

ZWMM





WHY'D YOU KEEP SOMETHING SO IMPORTANT FROM ME?

BORA?

FEIGN?

YOU KNOW, THAT WEATHER FORECAST ROBOT DIDN'T NEED TO FEIGN SUCH ALARM.

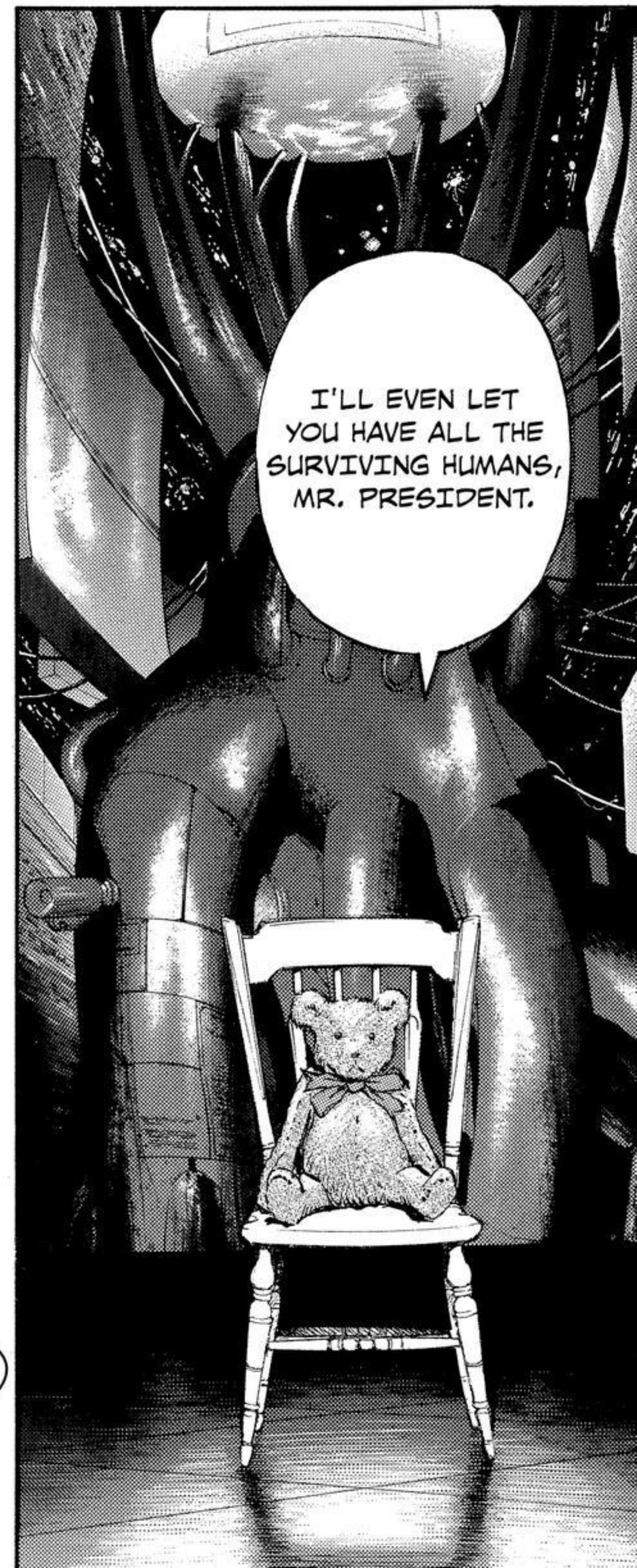
BUT WE ROBOTS WILL SURVIVE.

IT WILL CAUSE ALMOST UNIVERSAL DEATH.

SURE. IT'S JUST LIKE HE SAID.

WE'LL BE FINE. AND 10 PERCENT OF THE EARTH'S POPULATION WILL ALSO SURVIVE.

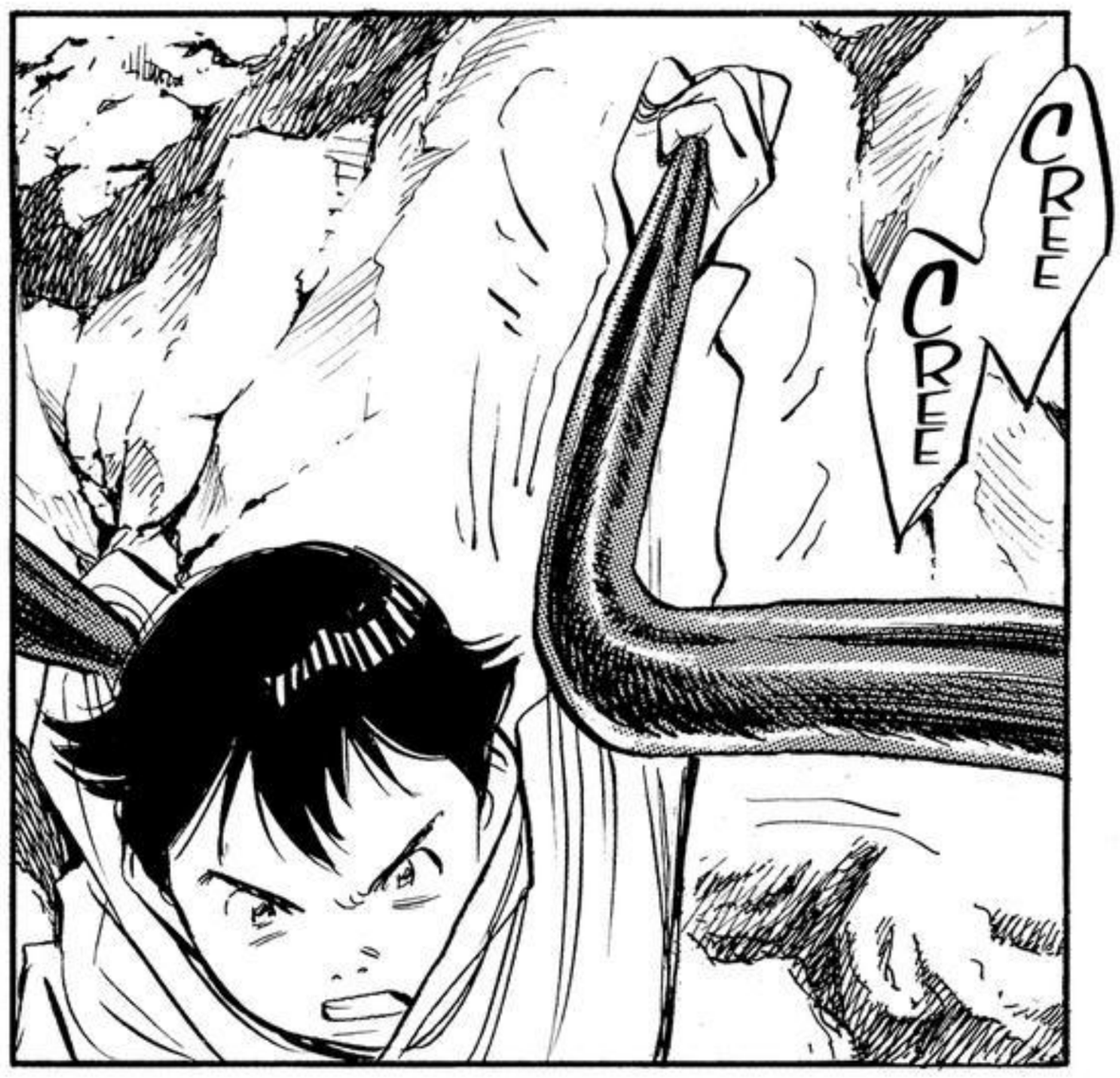
SHWMP
GRAHH

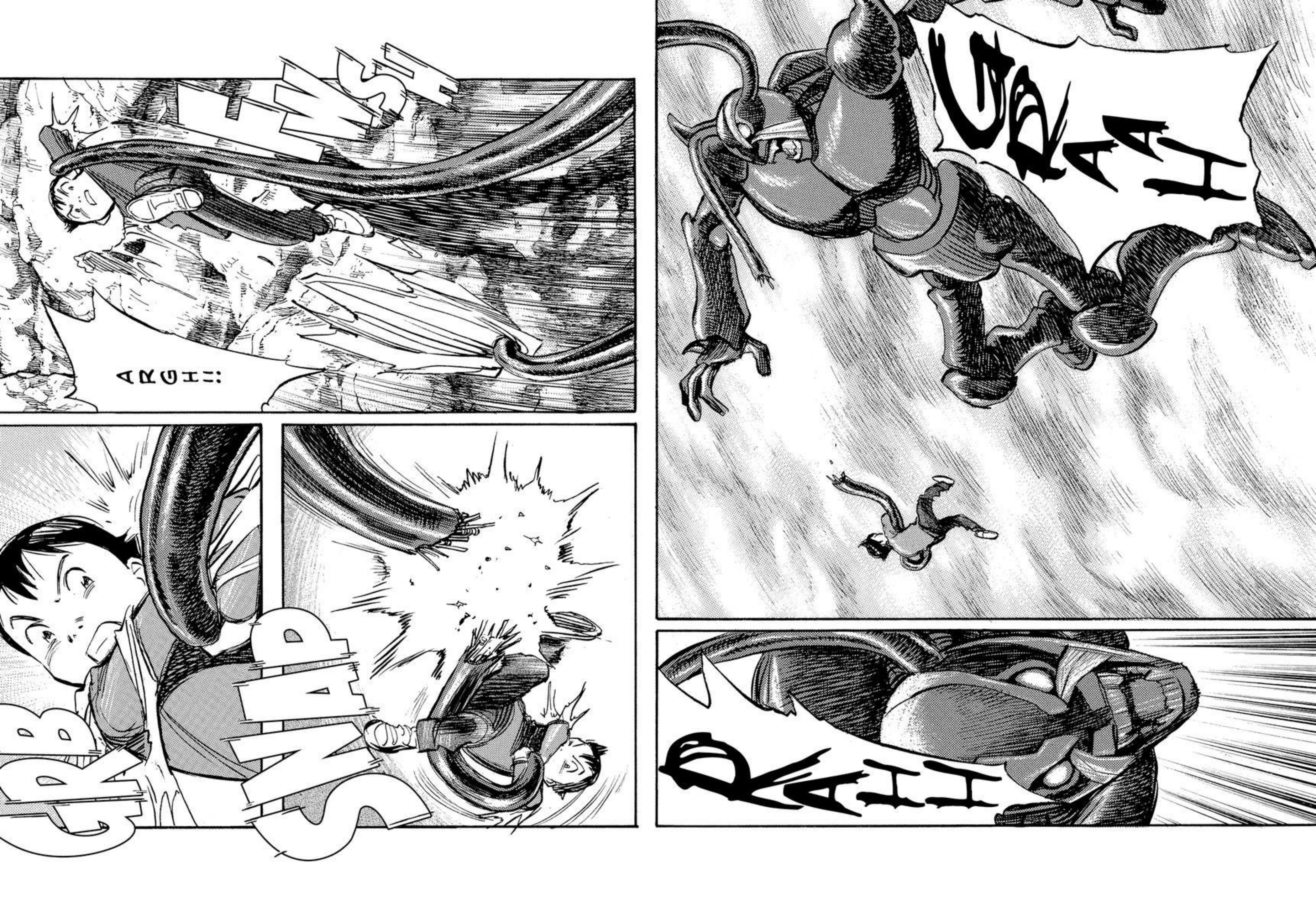

I'LL EVEN LET YOU HAVE ALL THE SURVIVING HUMANS, MR. PRESIDENT.

GRAB

GRE

GRRE




ドシュ
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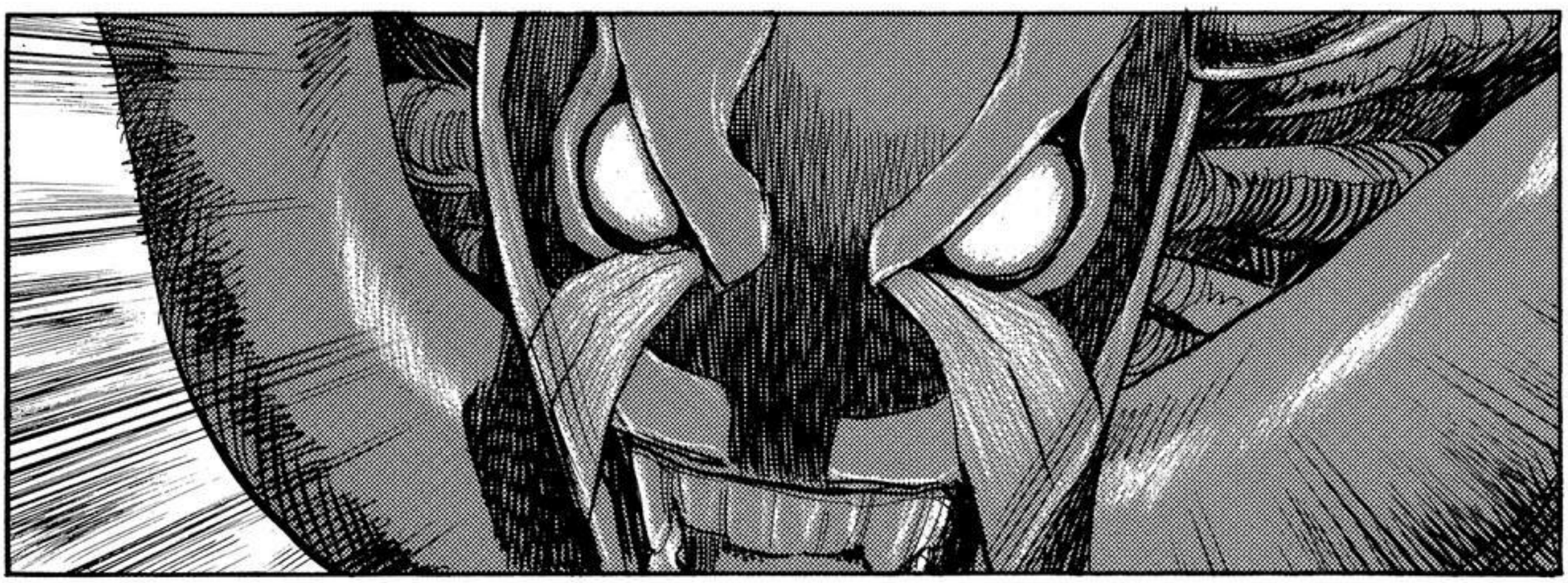
YOU MAY BE FILLED WITH HATE...



BOOM

R O A R

ATOM...

ATOM... DON'T DO THIS...!!

Act 62 GESICHT'S LEGACY

MONT BLANC LOVED THE FORESTS.

HE DIDN'T WANT TO DIE.

HE TRIED TO PROTECT THE FORESTS OF SWITZERLAND.

HE LOVED MUSIC.

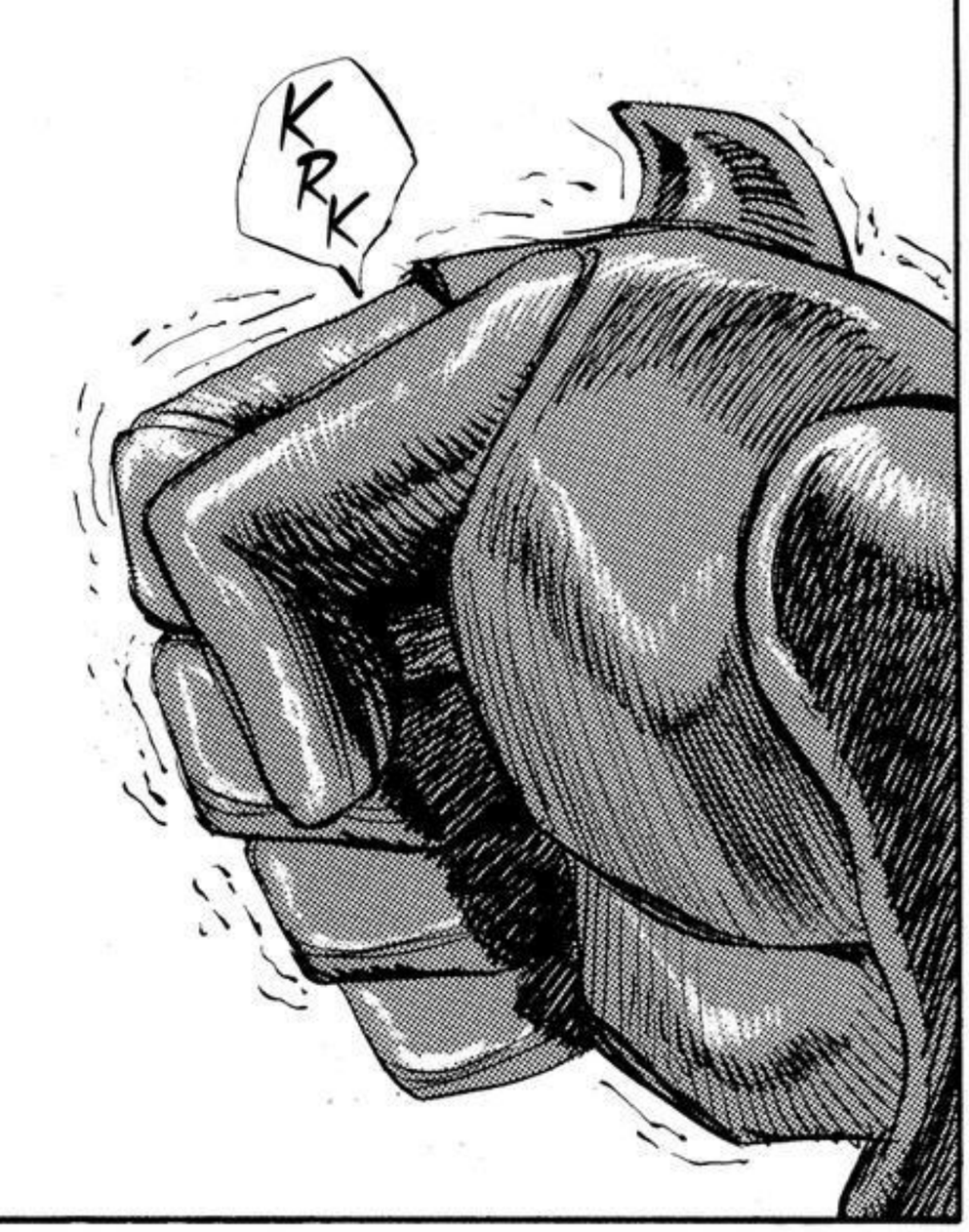
NORTH NO. 2 NEVER WANTED TO FIGHT AGAIN.

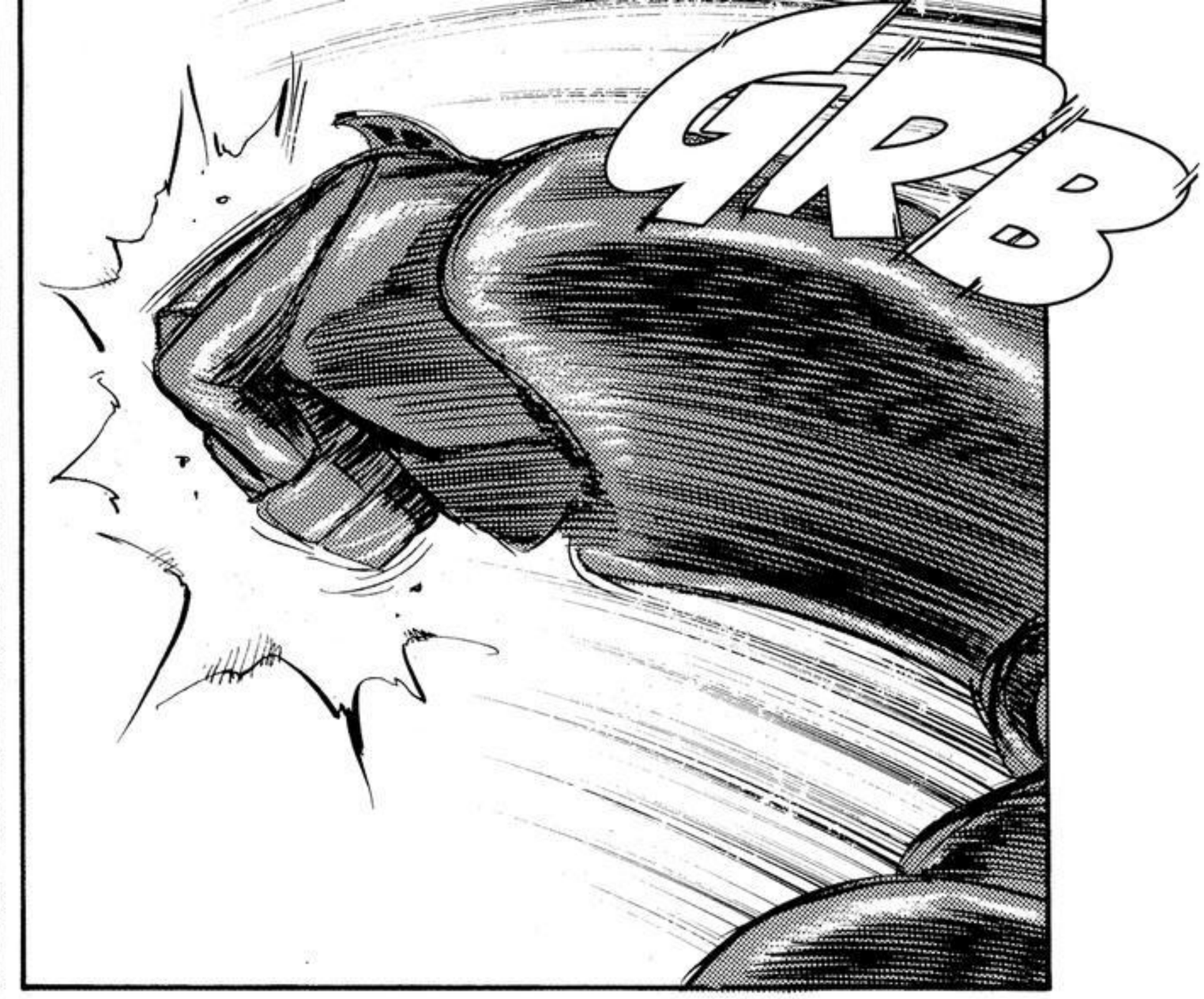
HE DIDN'T WANT TO DIE EITHER.

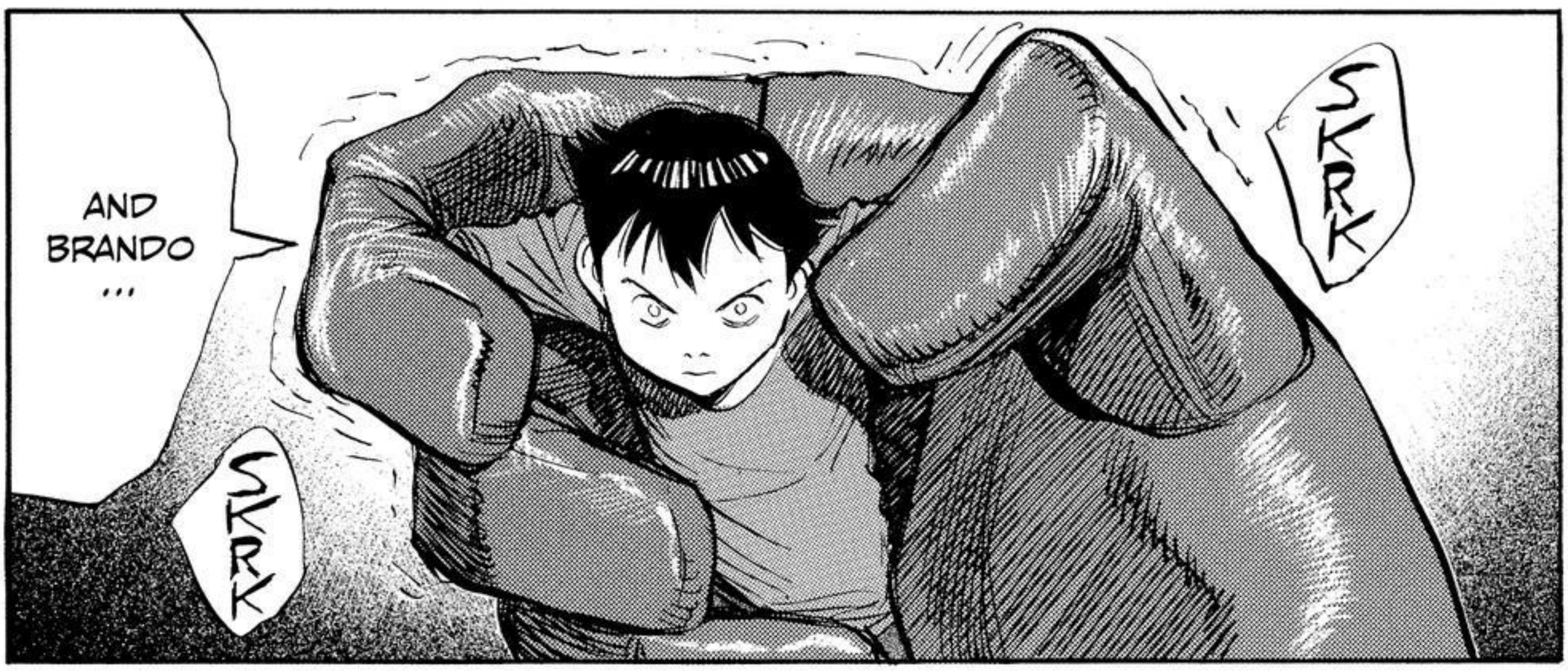
YOU KILLED THEM!!

I KILLED THEM!!

THAT'S RIGHT!!


KRK


GRB


AND BRANDO ...
SKRK
SKRK

HE LOVED HIS FAMILY AND BELIEVED IN THE FUTURE.

BUT THEY WERE ALSO JOINED BY A SOLID FRIENDSHIP.

BRANDO AND HERCULES WERE RIVALS.

SKRK

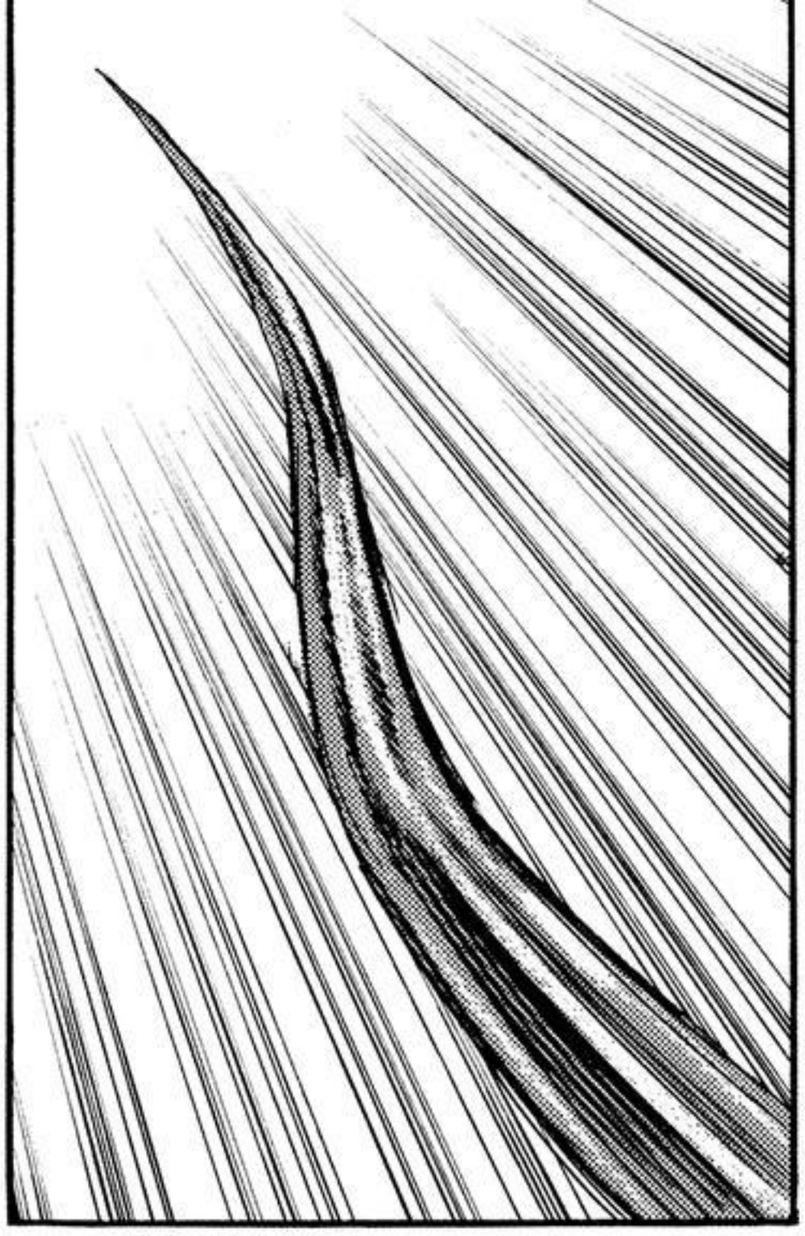
KRK

NEITHER OF THEM...

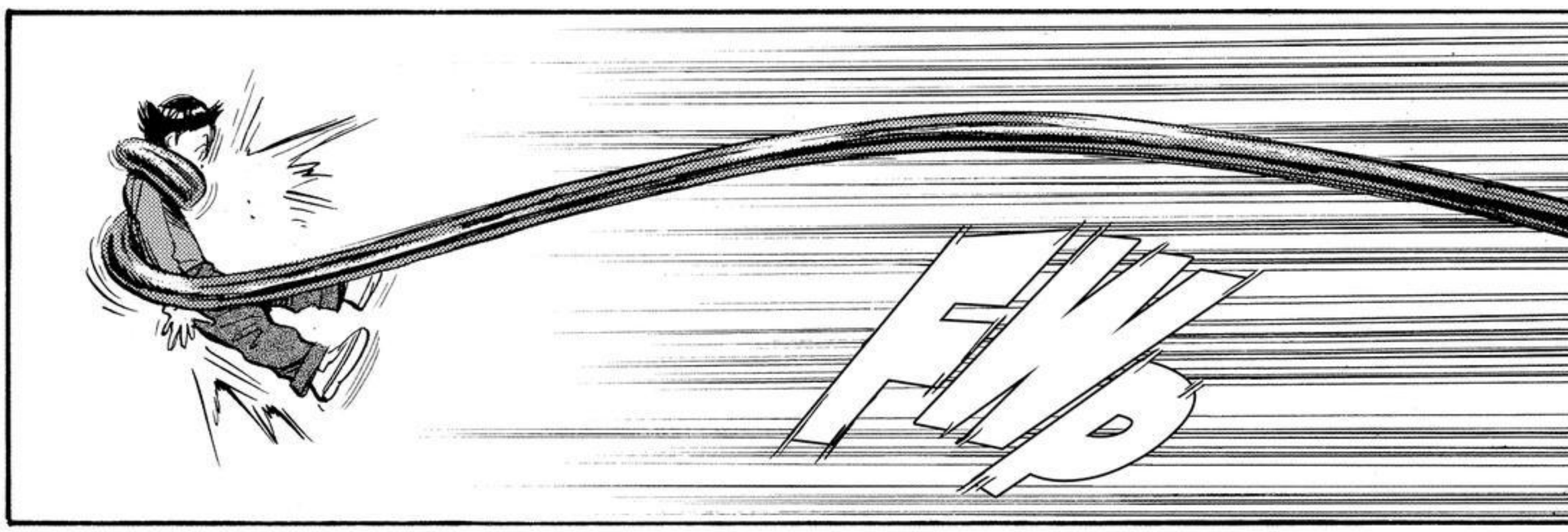
NEITHER OF THEM WANTED TO DIE!

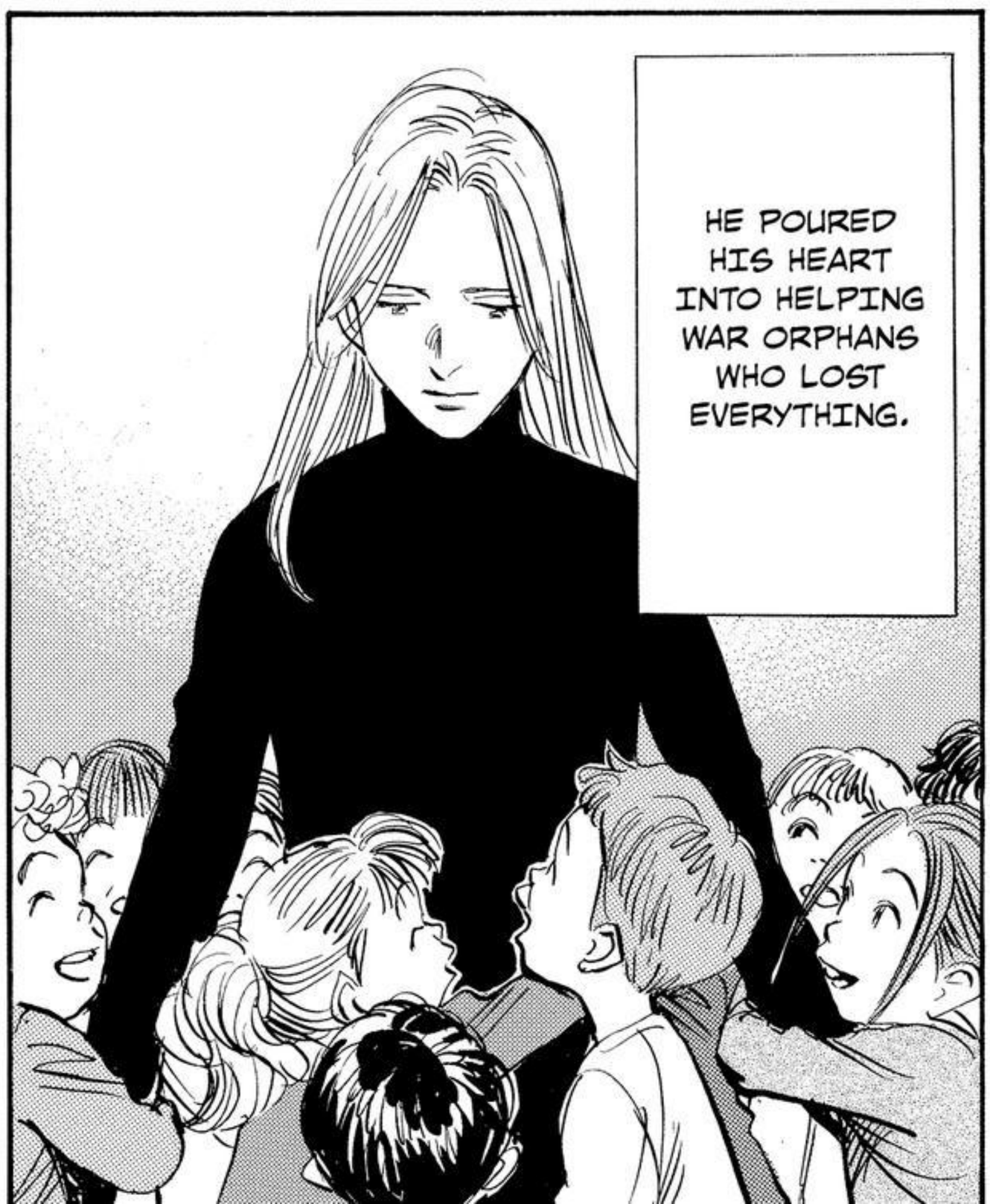
Act 62

GESICHT'S LEGACY



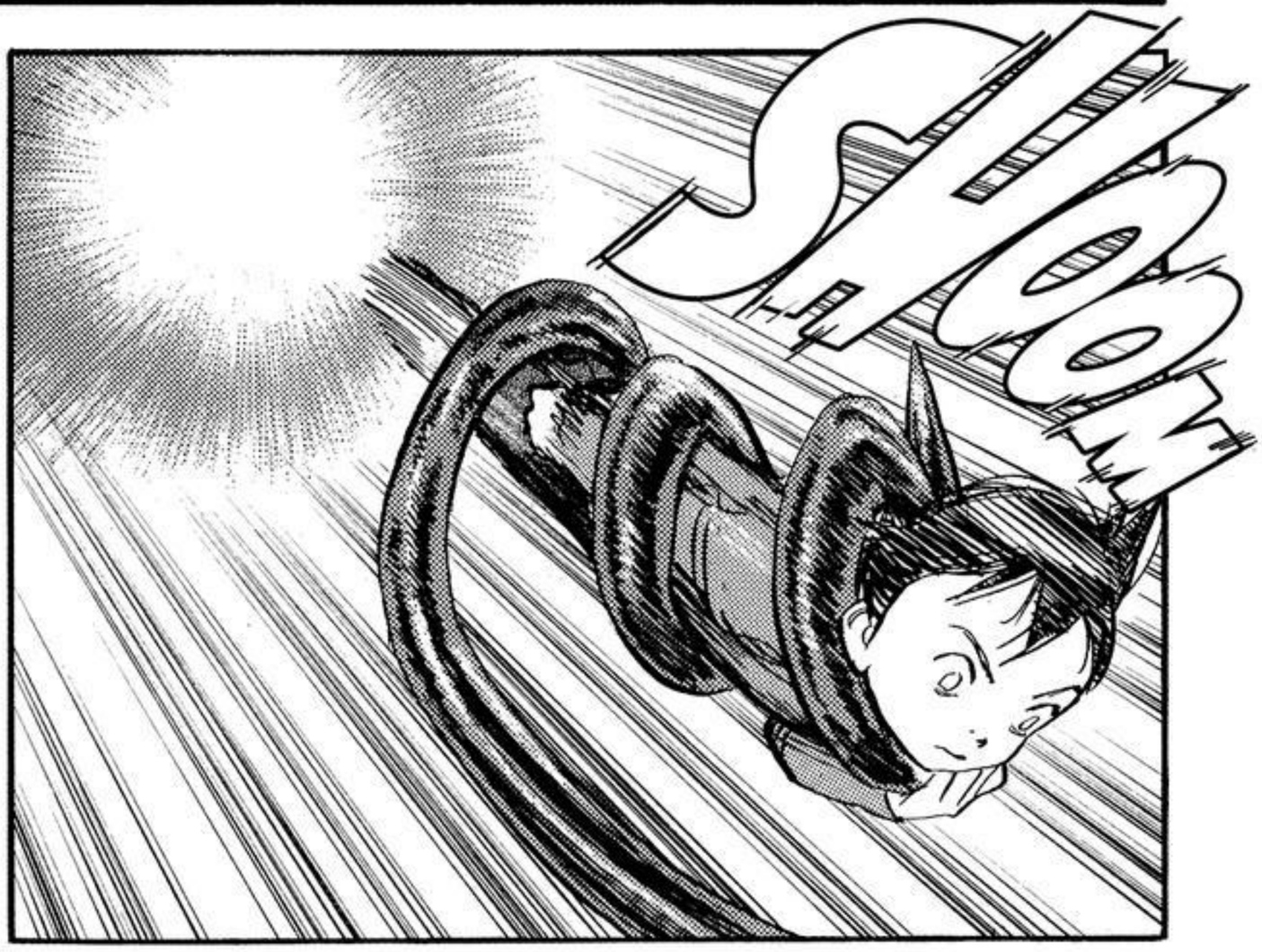
GRAAH

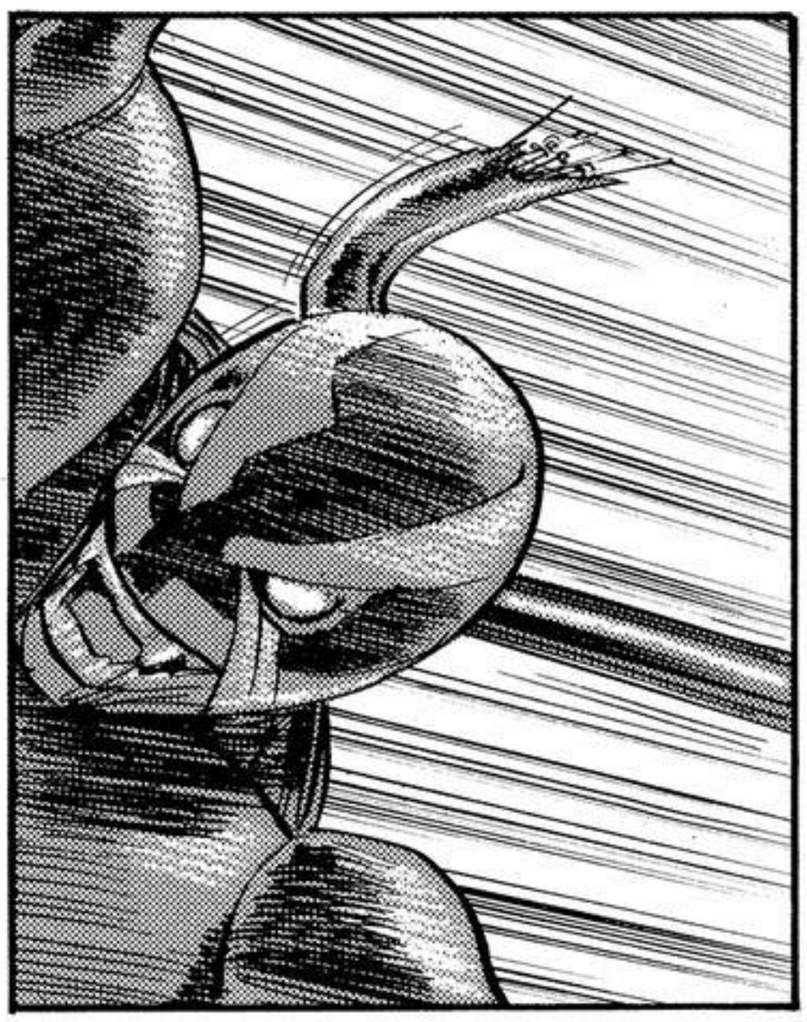

FWB

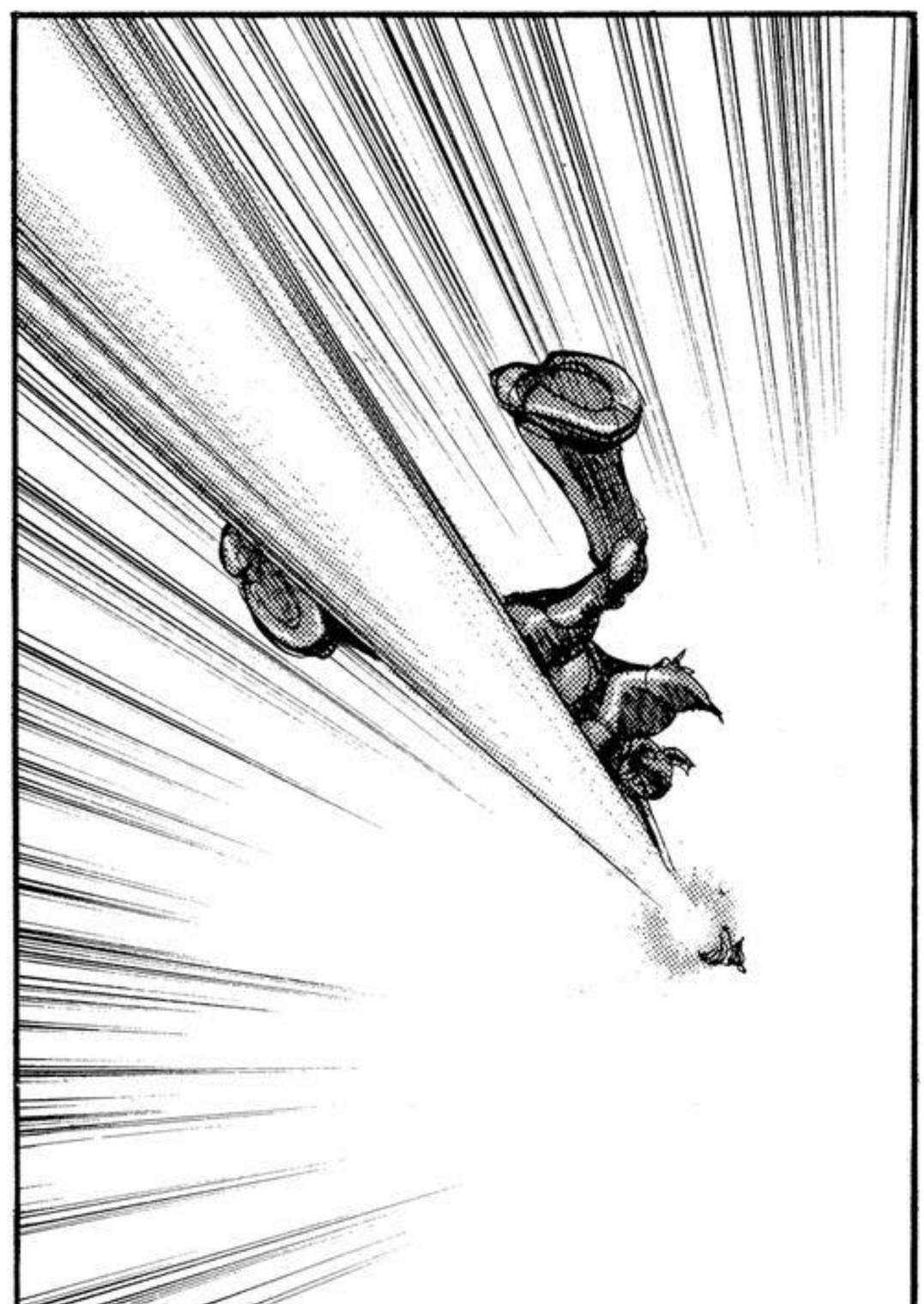

HE POURED HIS HEART INTO HELPING WAR ORPHANS WHO LOST EVERYTHING.

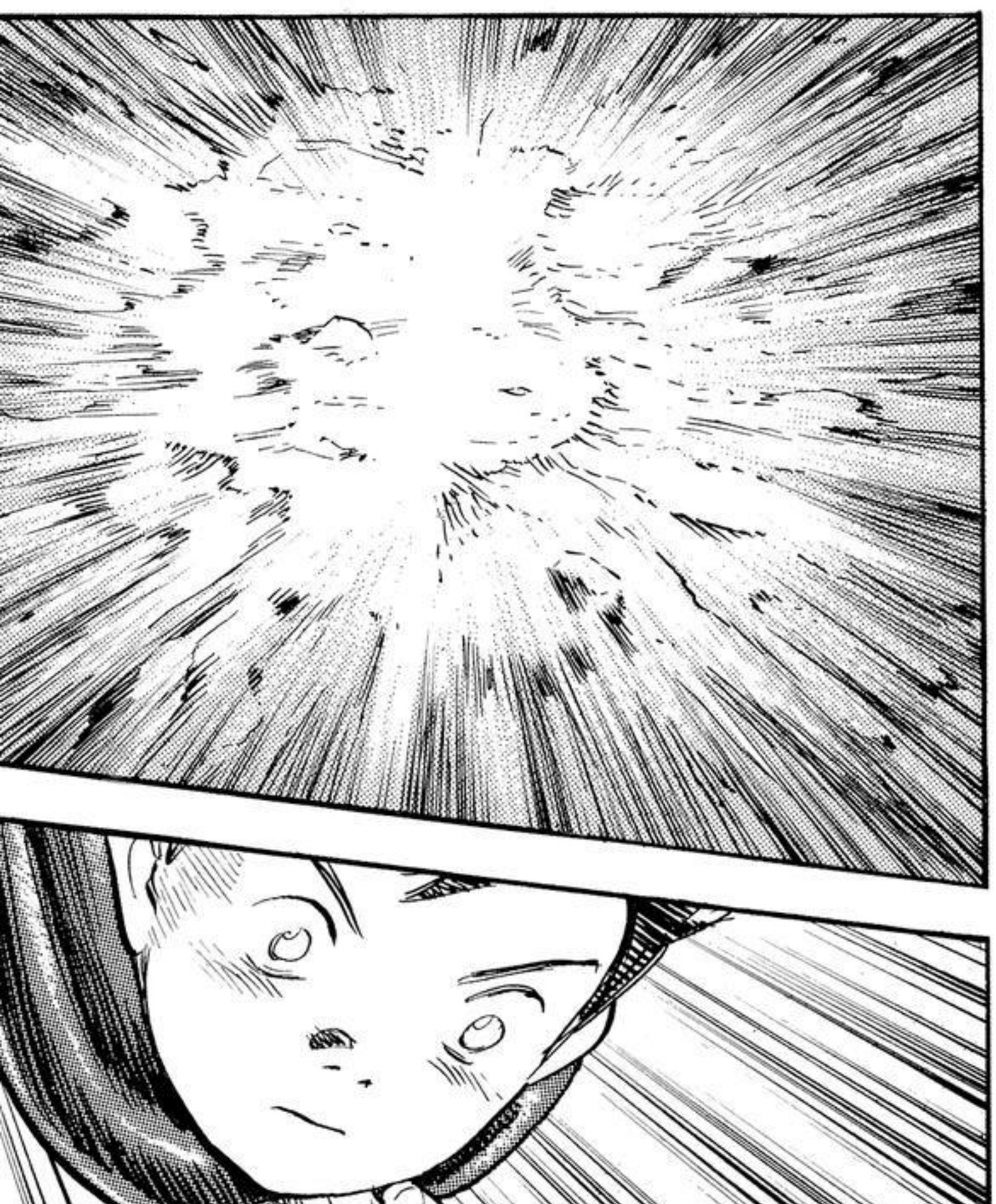
EPSILON WAS SO AGAINST WAR AND VIOLENCE THAT HE REFUSED TO FIGHT!

HE DIDN'T WANT TO DIE!!

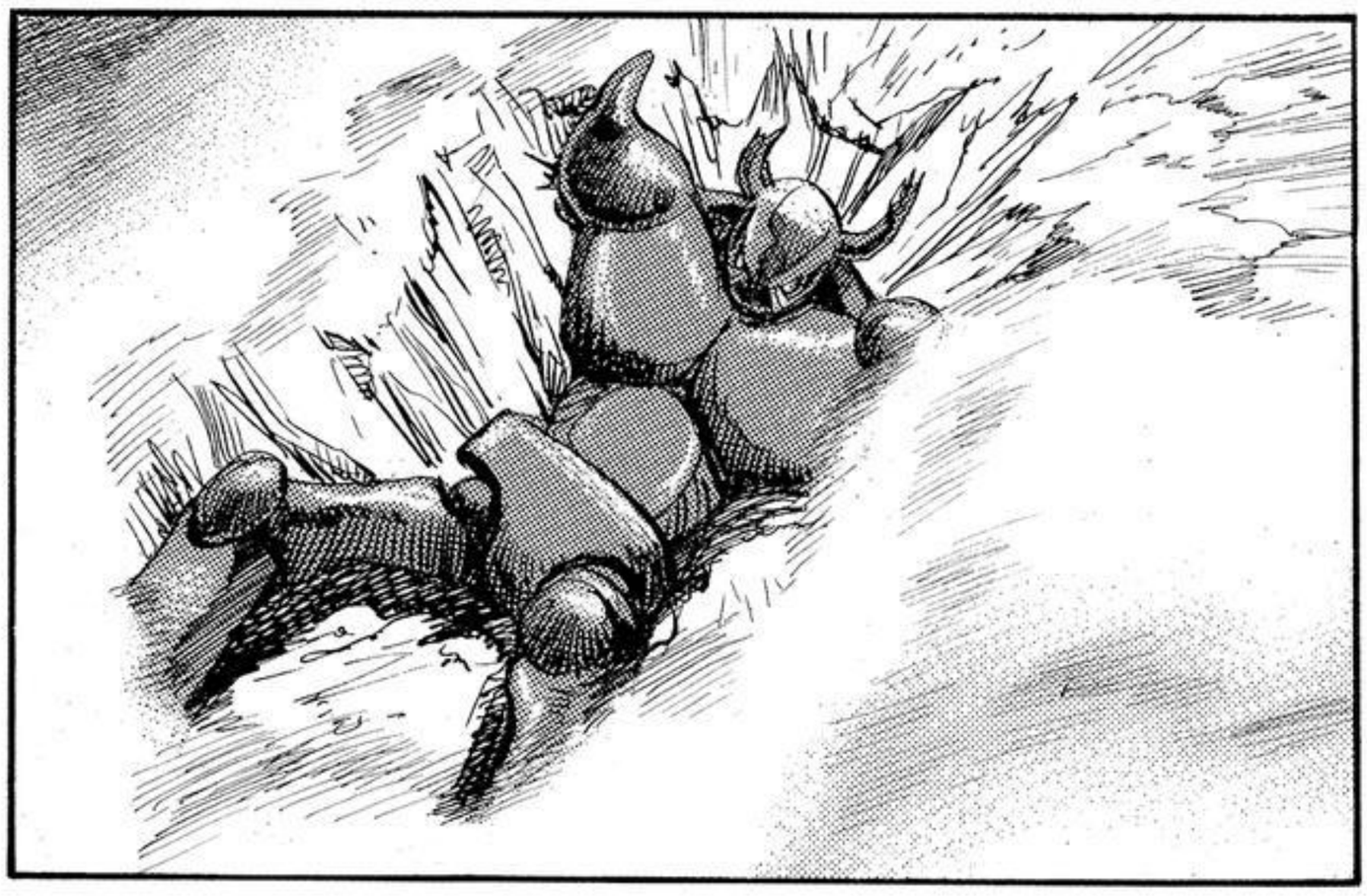


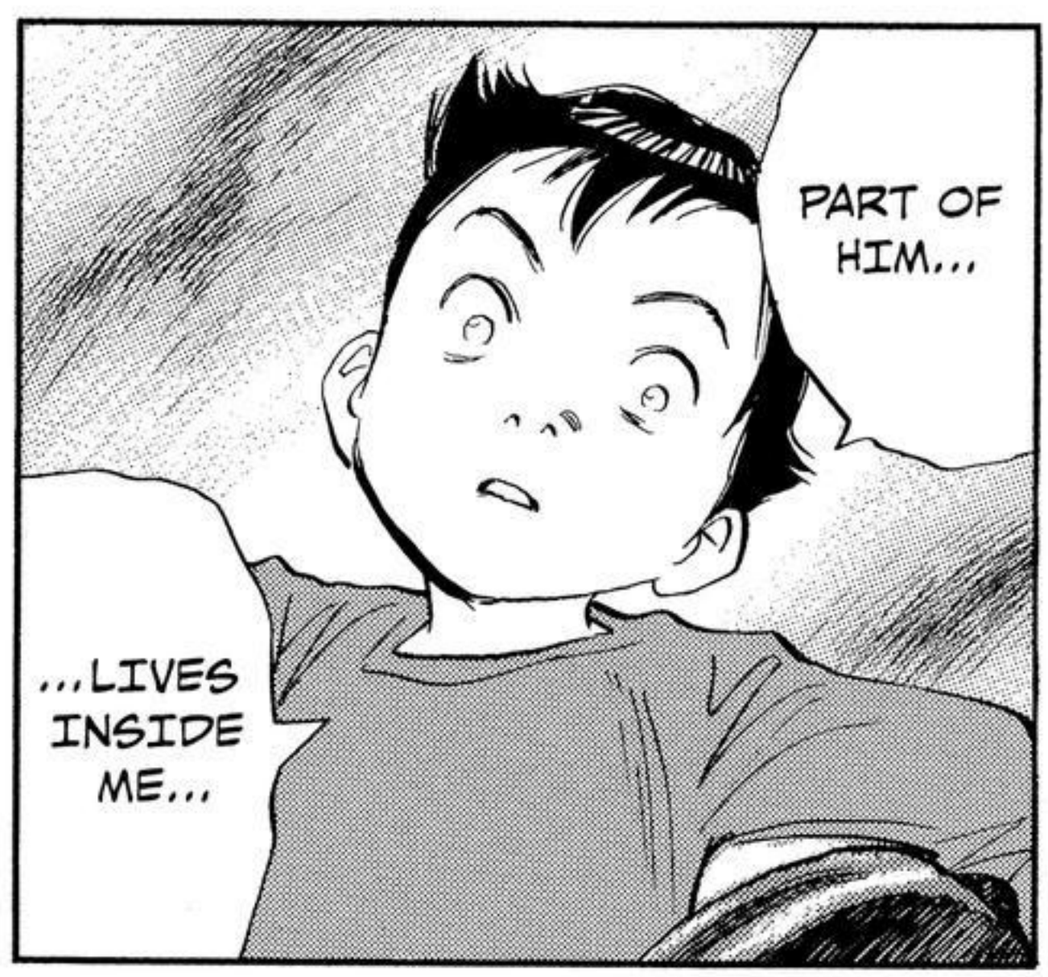




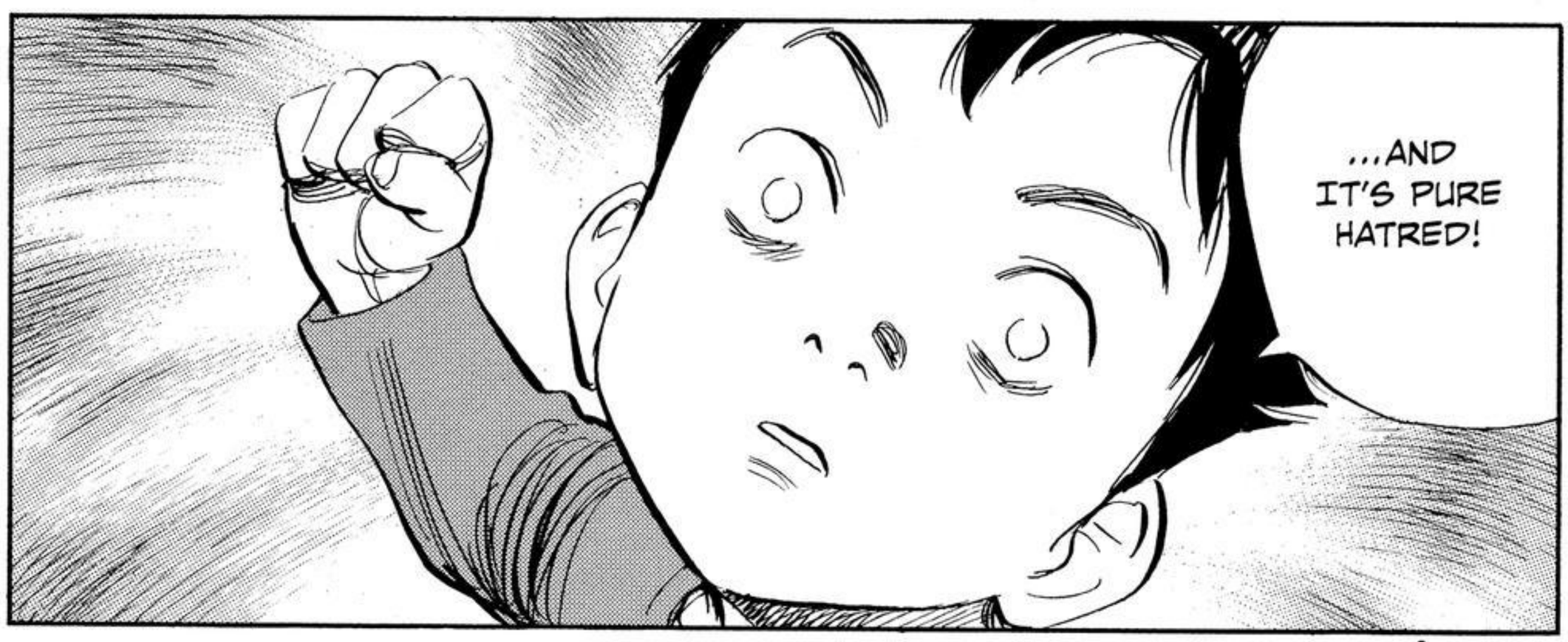


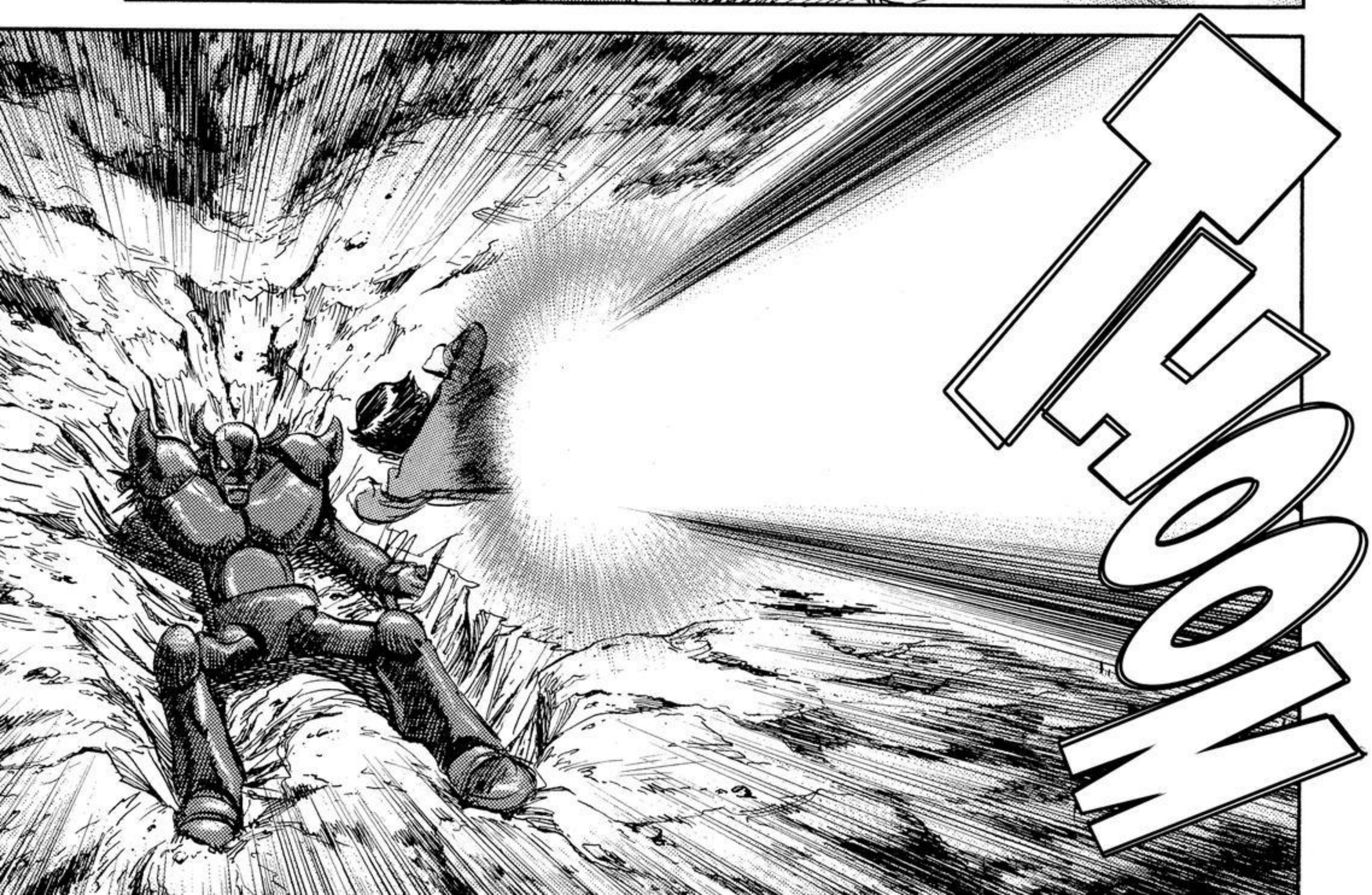
BOOM

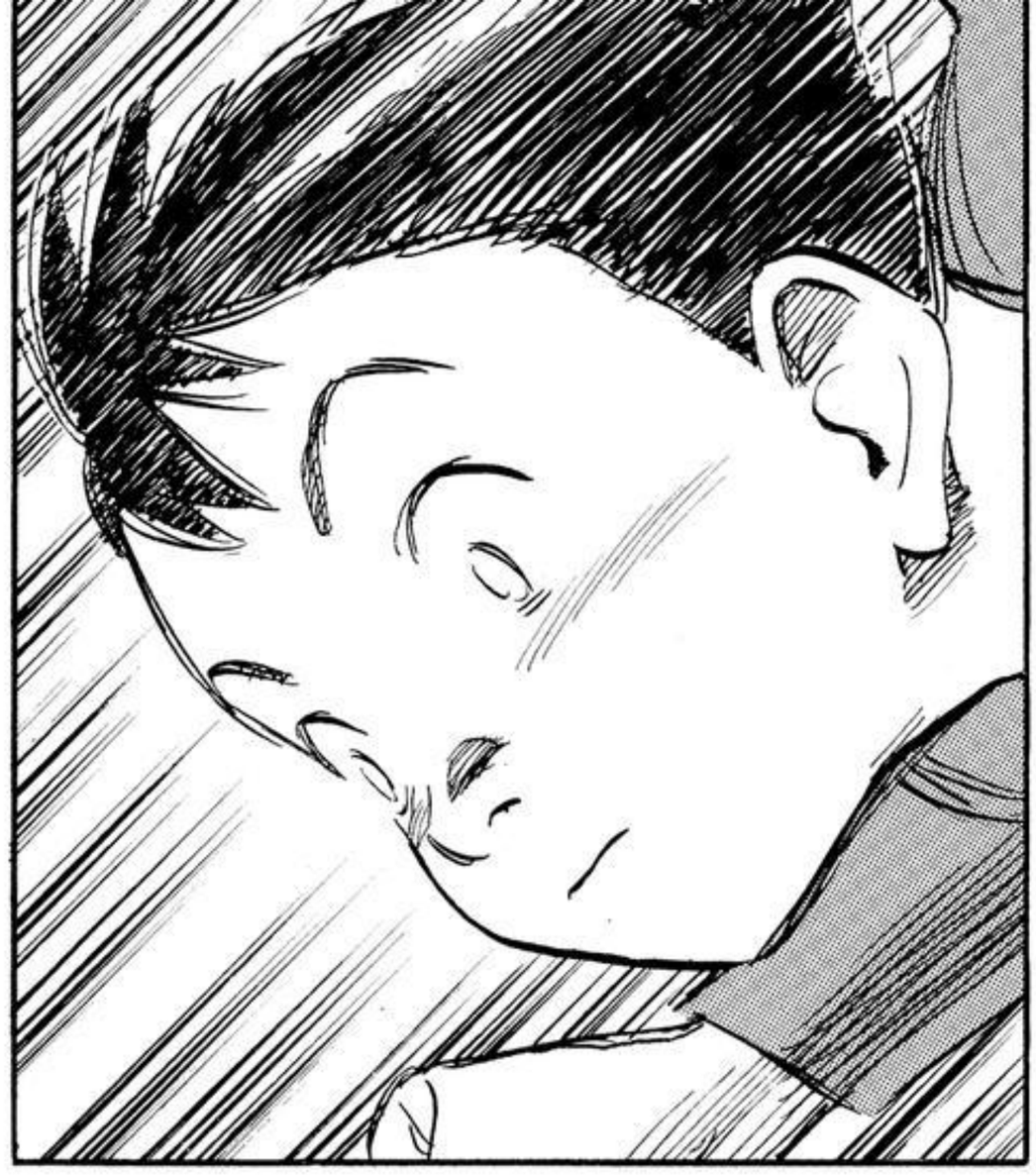


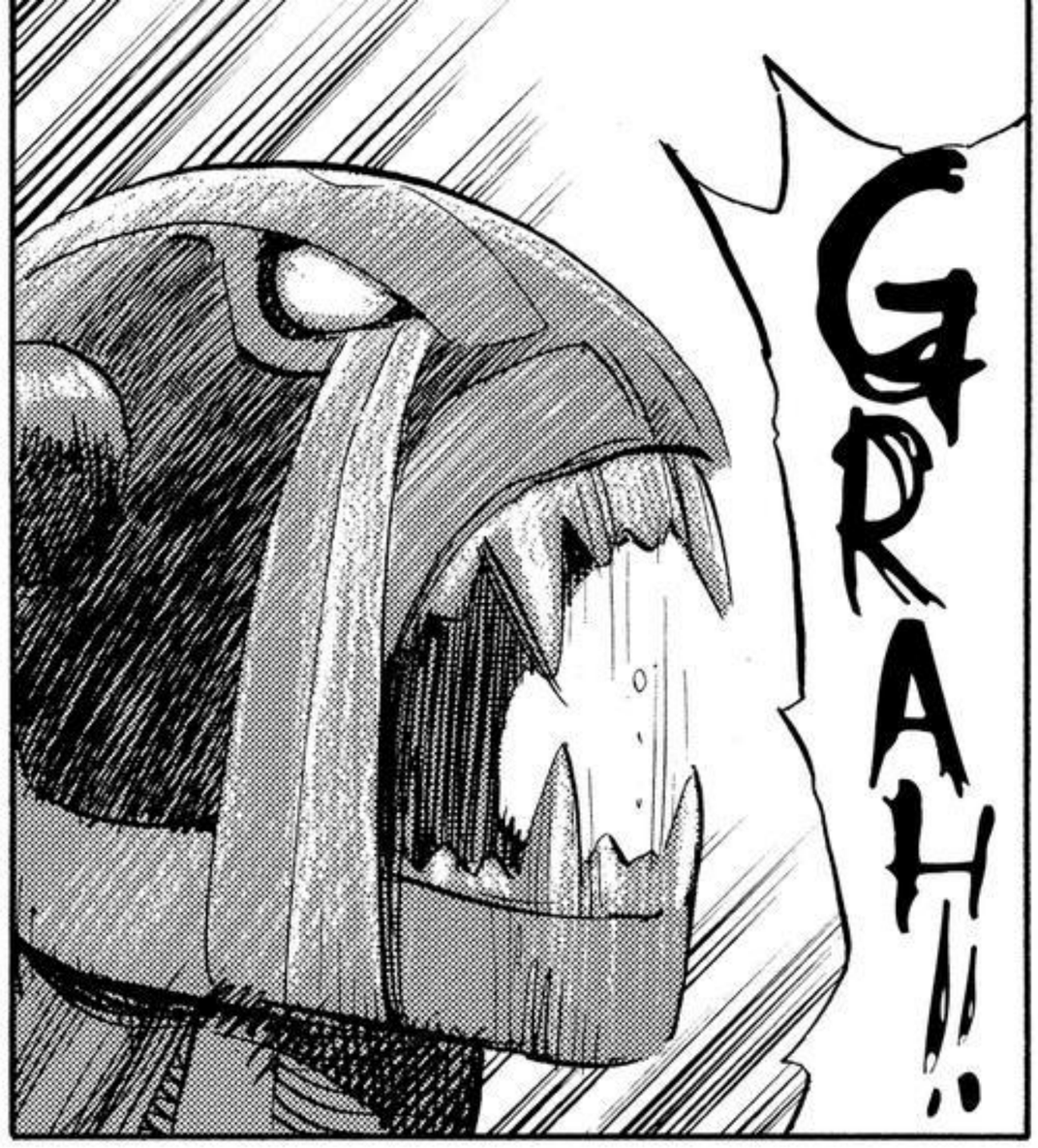

PART OF HIM...
...LIVES INSIDE ME...

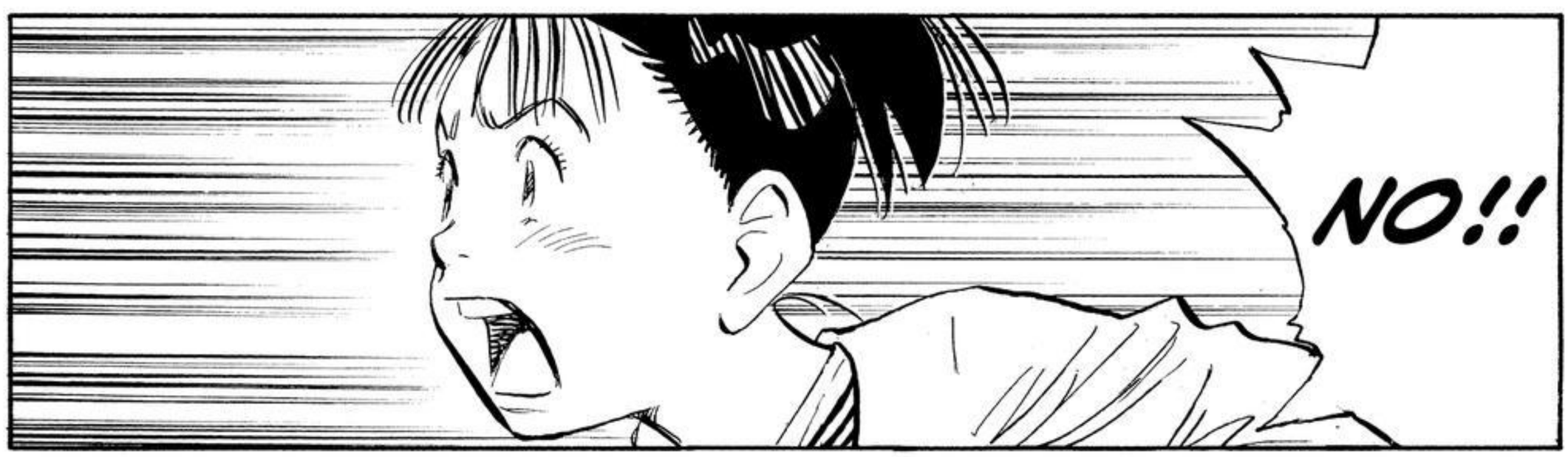
GROOAH


...AND IT'S PURE HATRED!

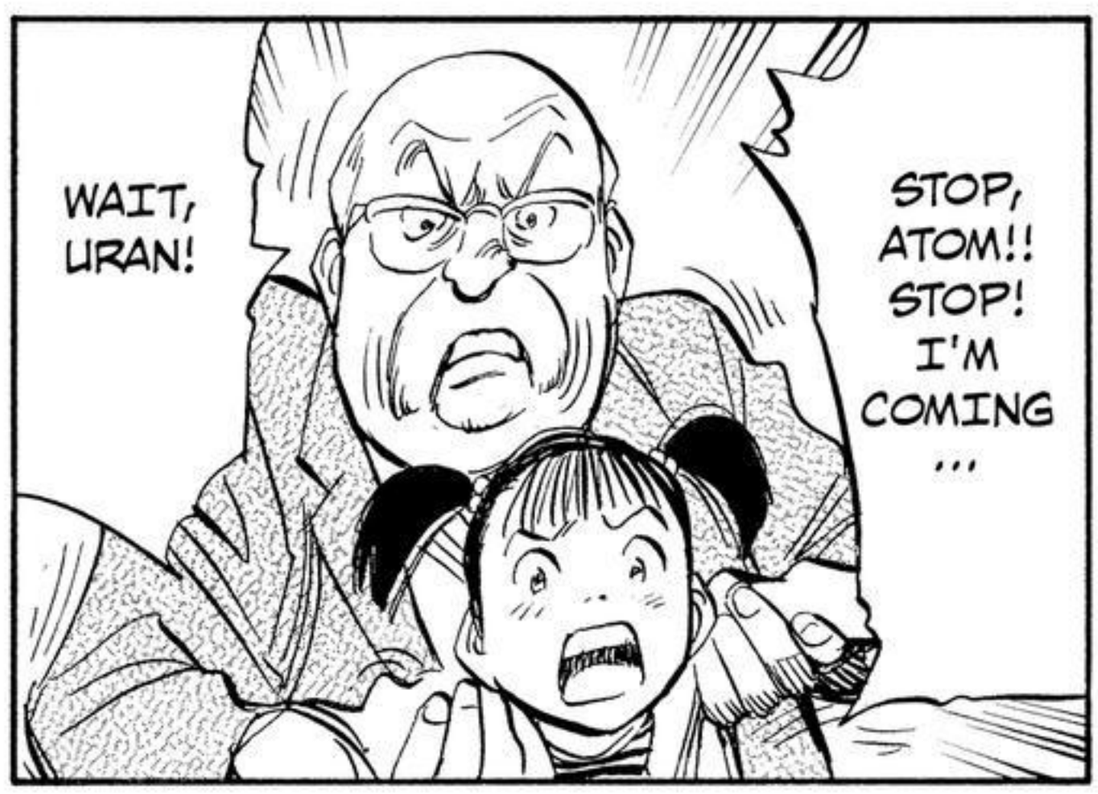

HOOH




GRAH!!


NO!!

IT'S ATOM ...
WHAT IS IT, URAN?!


WAIT, URAN!
STOP, ATOM!! STOP! I'M COMING ...

NO, ATOM! STOP!!

BUT IF WE DON'T DO SOMETHING, ATOM'LL...

BUT...
HOW WILL GOING THERE HELP?! PROFESSOR OCHANOMIZU'S ALREADY ON HIS WAY!!

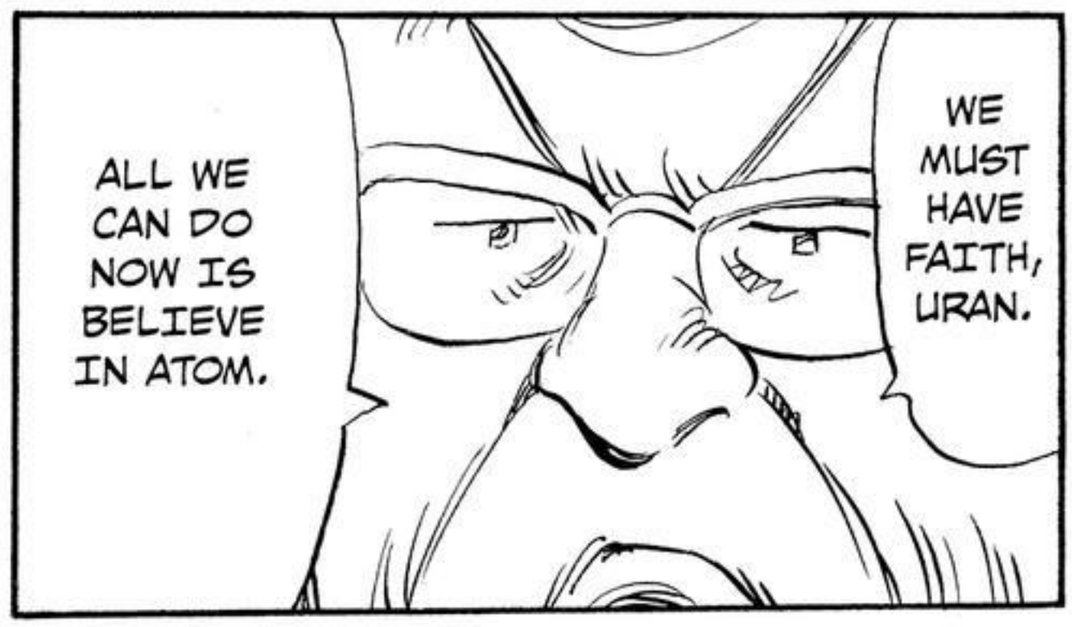
IF HE'S TOO STRONG, THERE'S NO TELLING *WHAT* HE'LL DO!!
...

IT'S ALL RIGHT! DON'T WORRY!! ATOM'S STRONG. NOBODY'S GOING TO BEAT HIM THAT EASILY!!
BUT WHAT IF HE'S *TOO* STRONG ...?

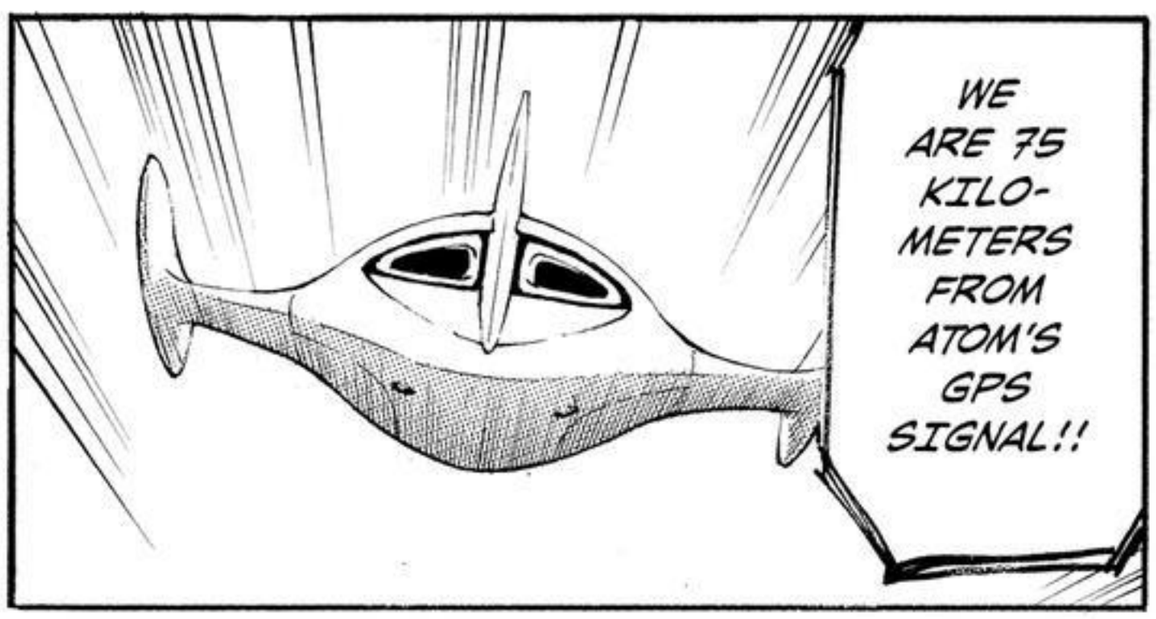
...

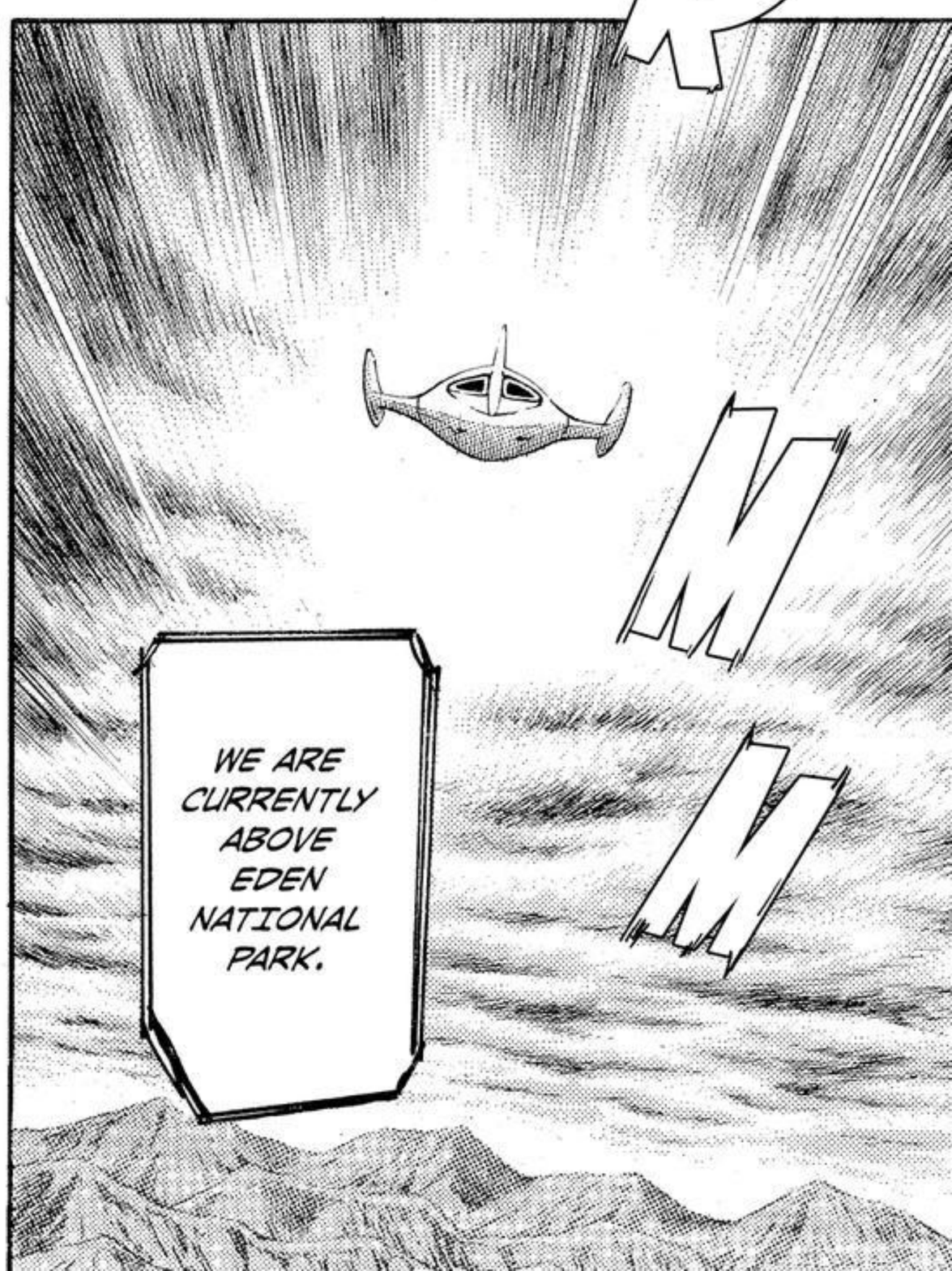
IF HIS GRIEF OR HIS HATE IS TOO STRONG...
...ATOM MIGHT EVEN *KILL* THE OTHER GUY!!

HE'S NOT THE KIND OF BOY WHO'D KILL ANYONE!!


ALL WE CAN DO NOW IS BELIEVE IN ATOM.
WE MUST HAVE FAITH, URAN.

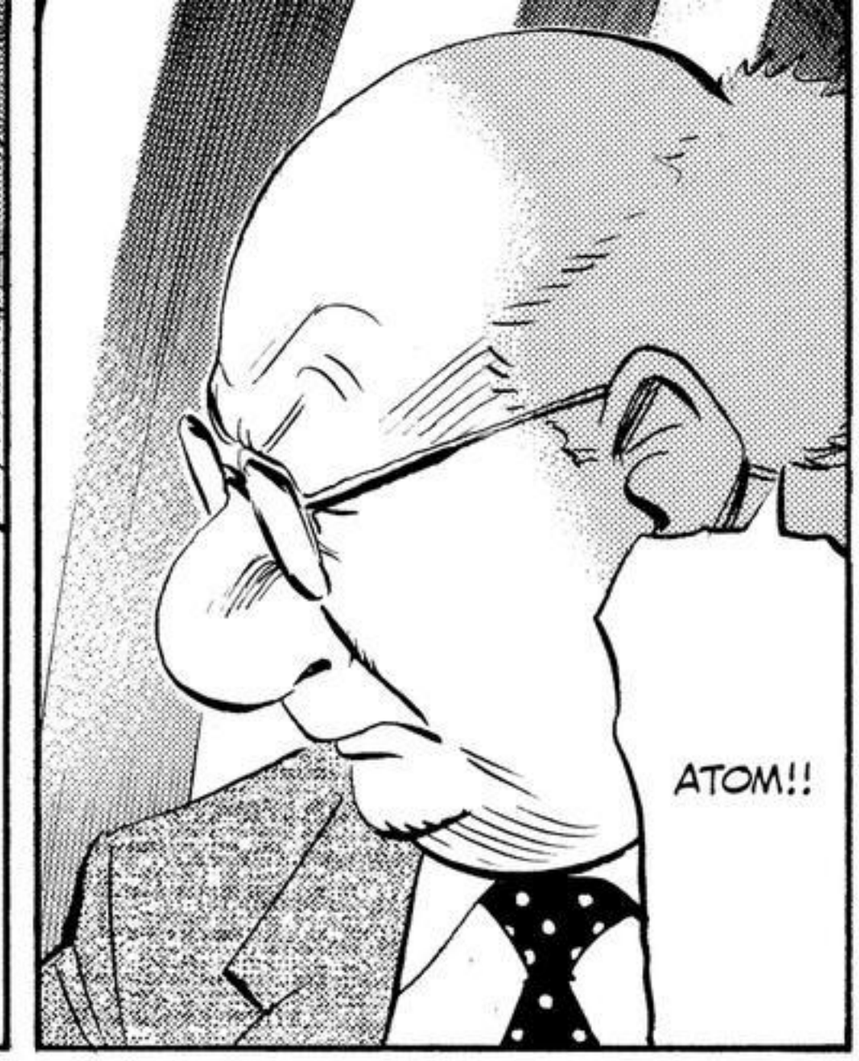
P

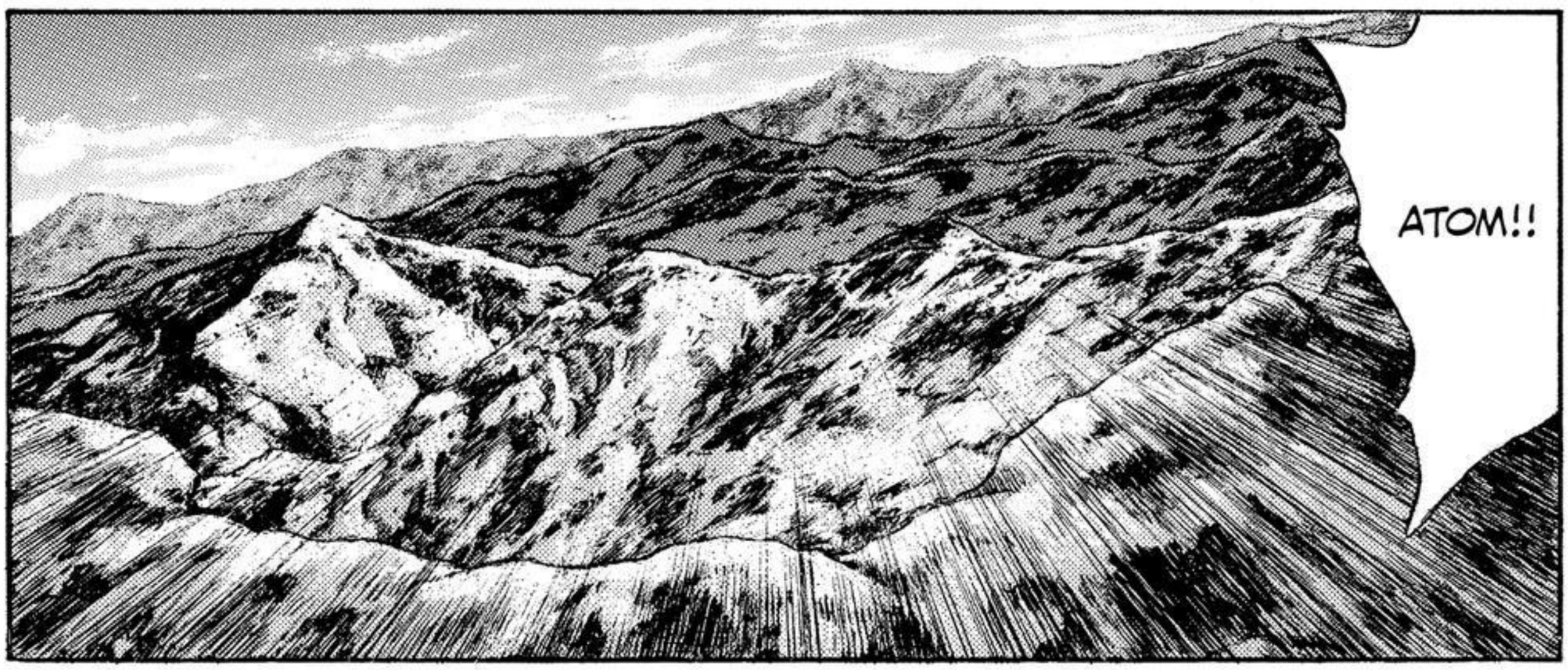

WE ARE 75 KILO-METERS FROM ATOM'S GPS SIGNAL!!


P
WE ARE CURRENTLY ABOVE EDEN NATIONAL PARK.

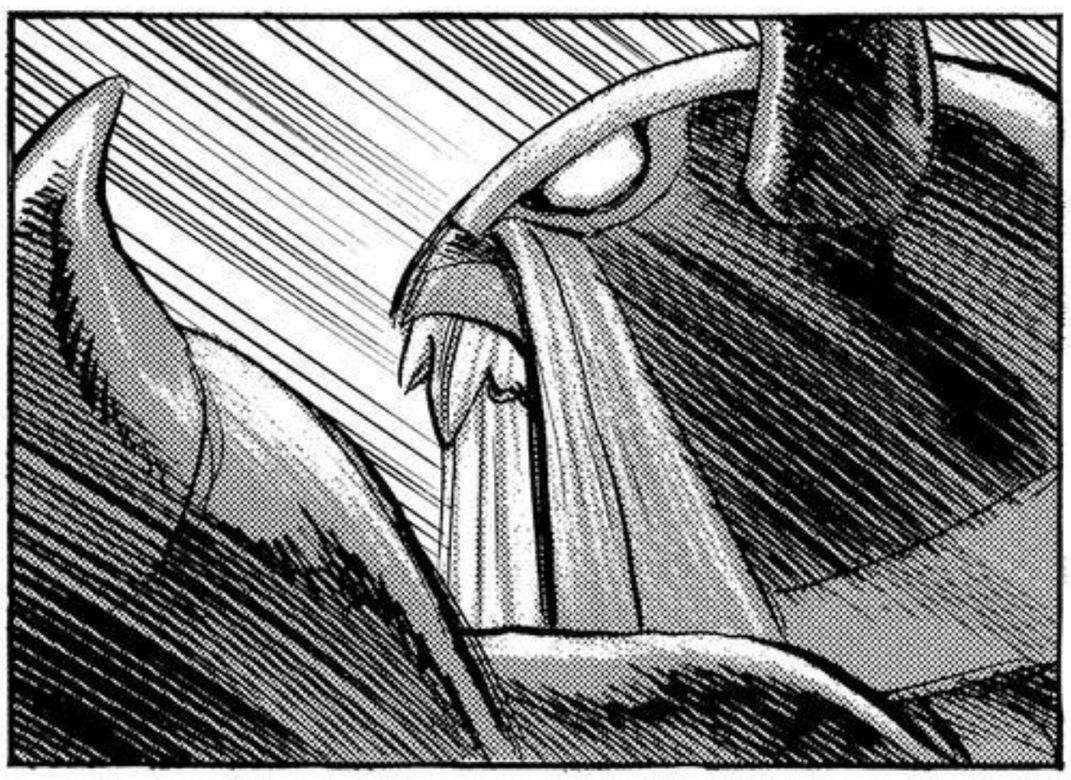
BEGINNING DESCENT!

PLEASE LET US BE IN TIME...!!


ATOM!!


ATOM!!

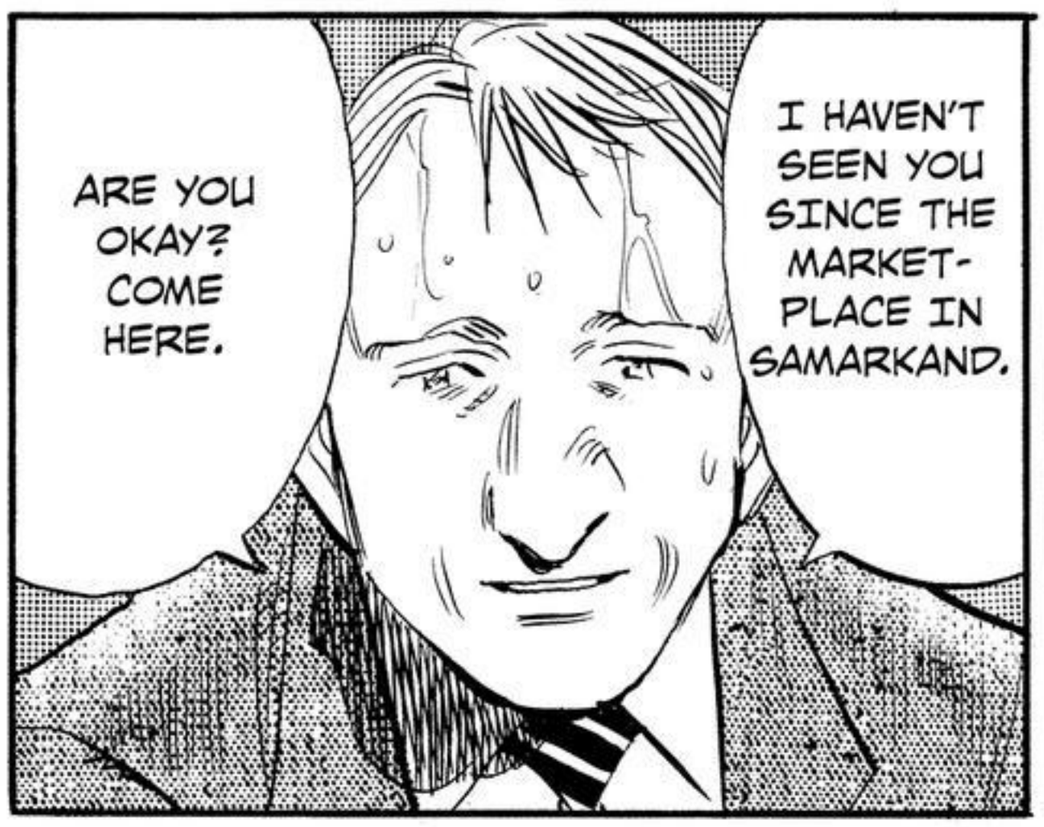
KRESH

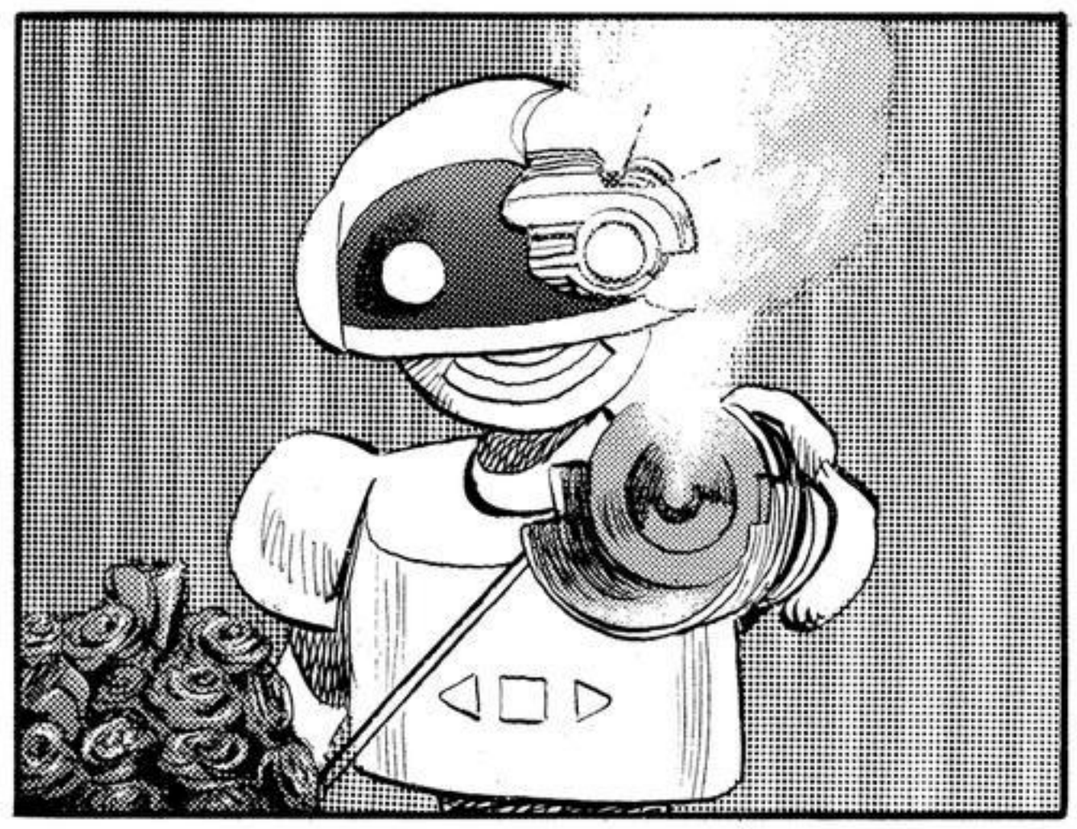


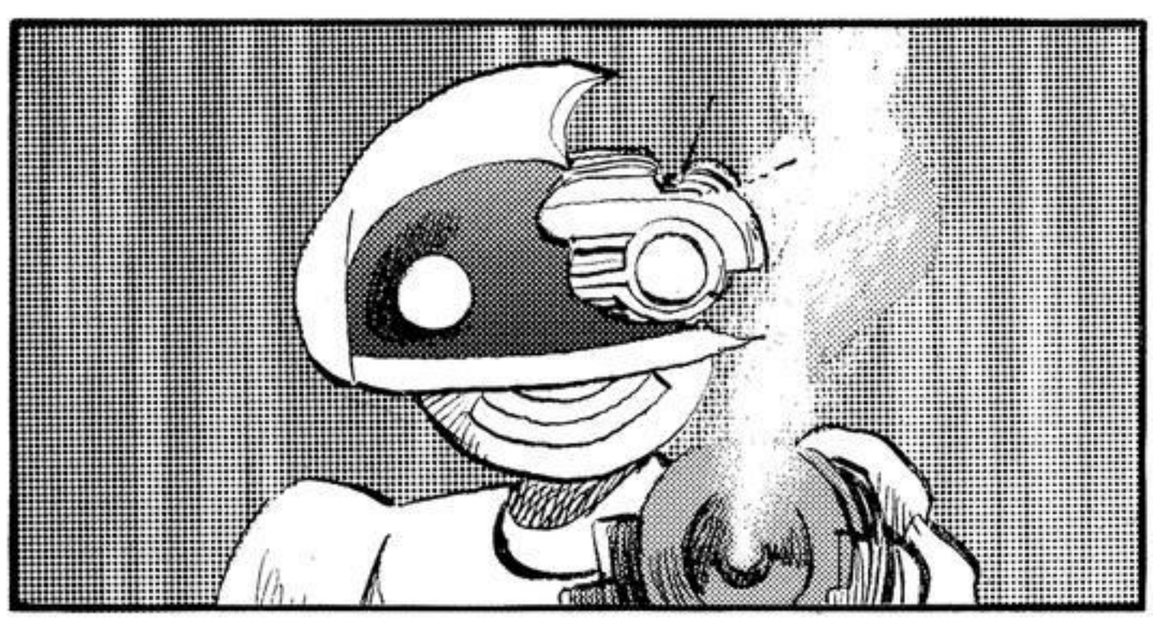
BOOM

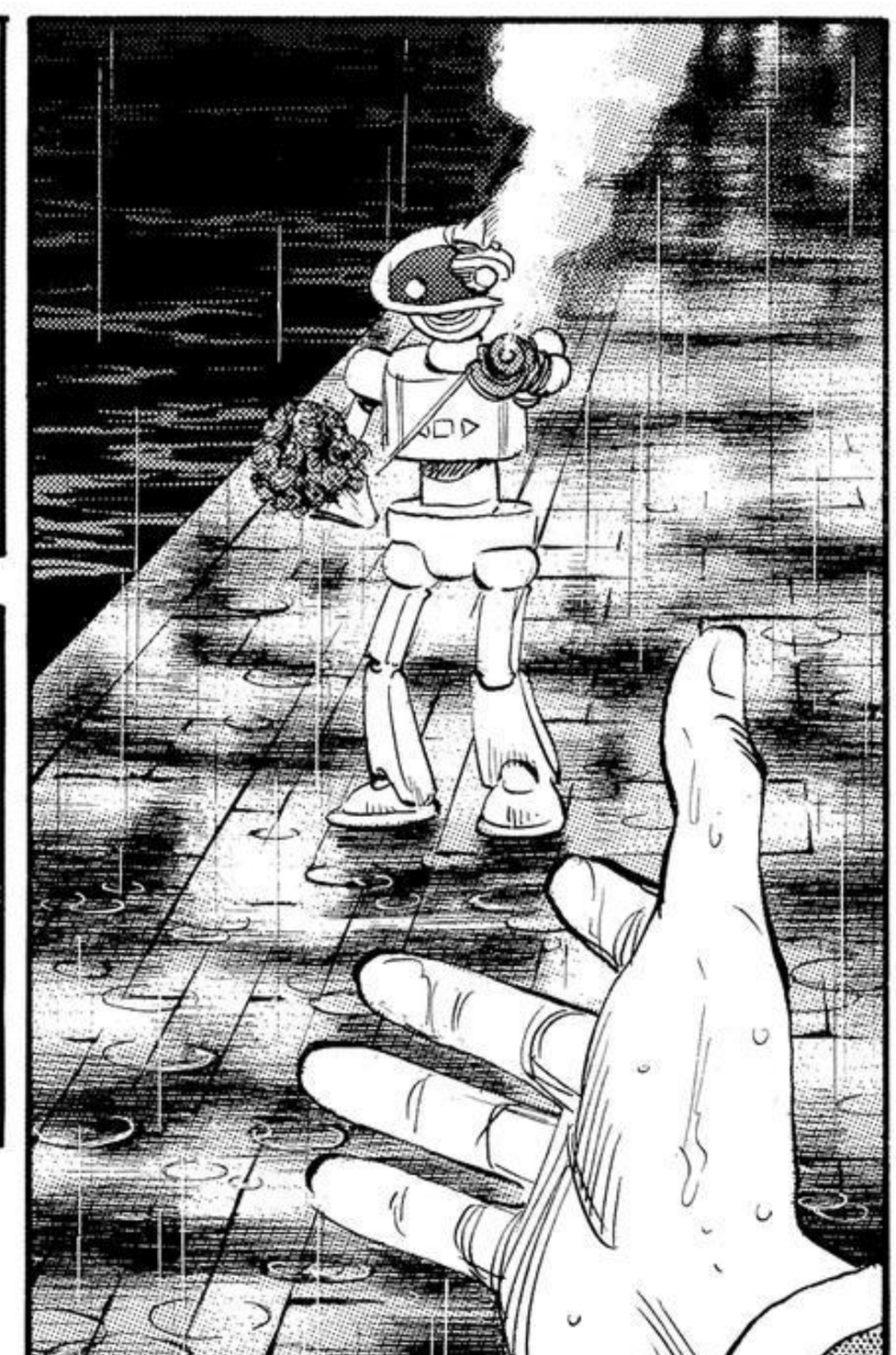
ALI...?

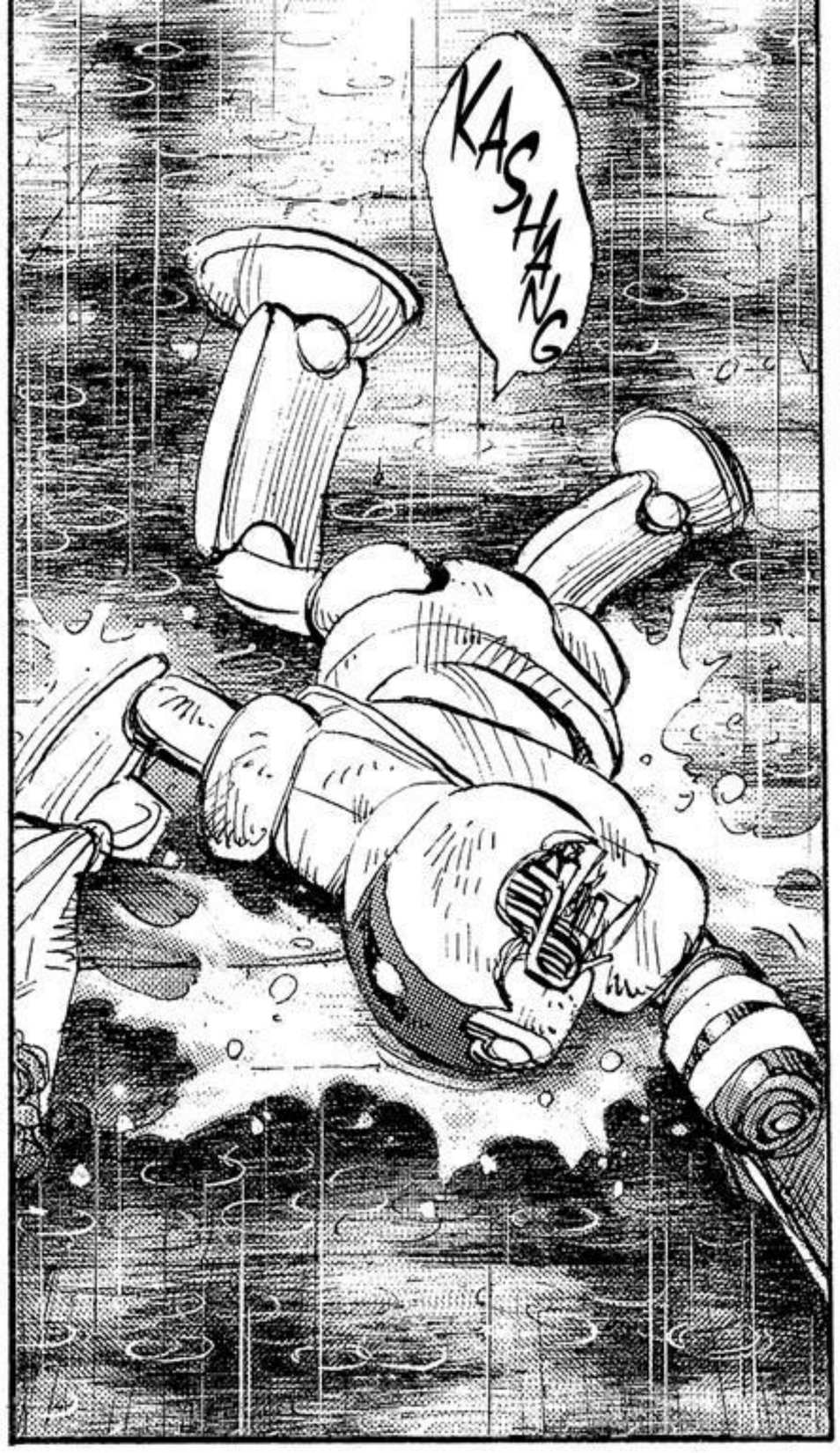
WHAT'S THE MATTER...





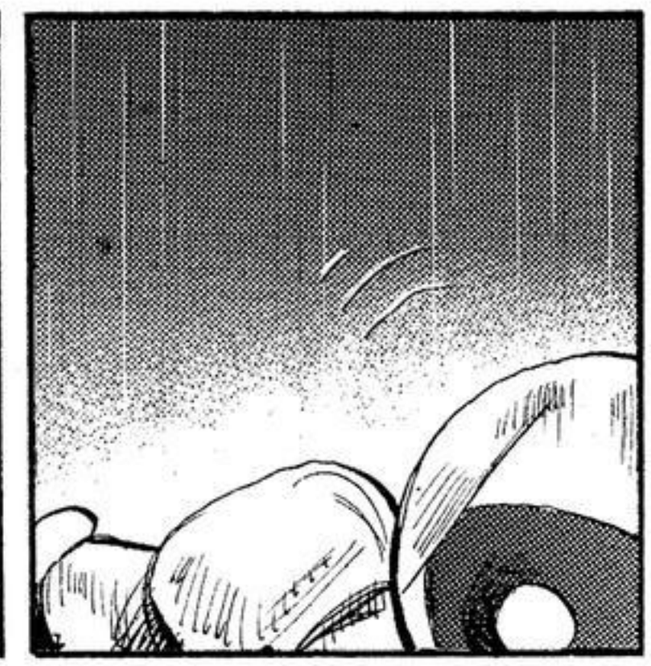


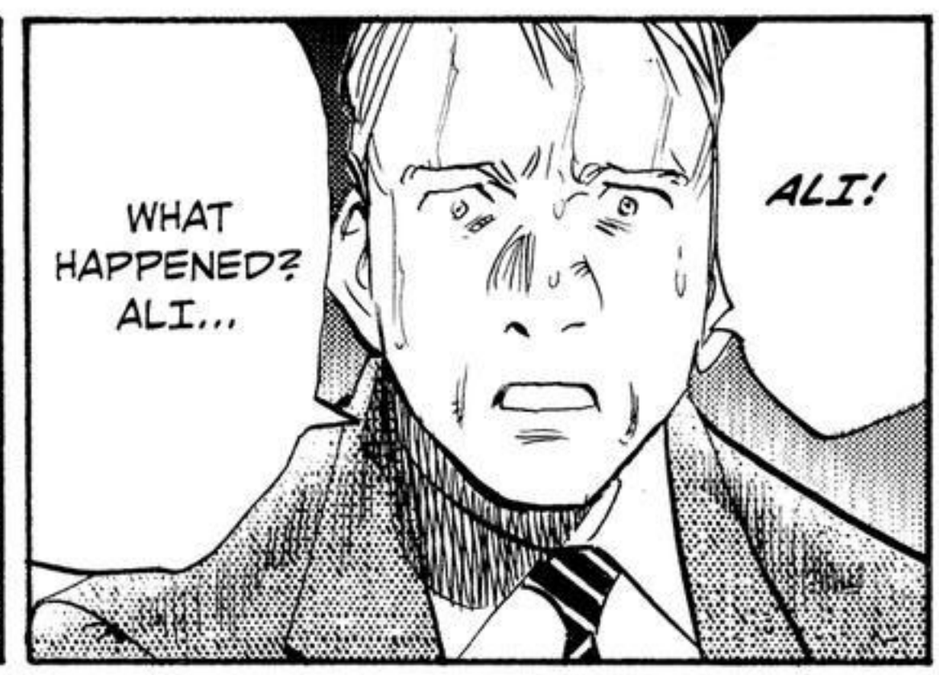


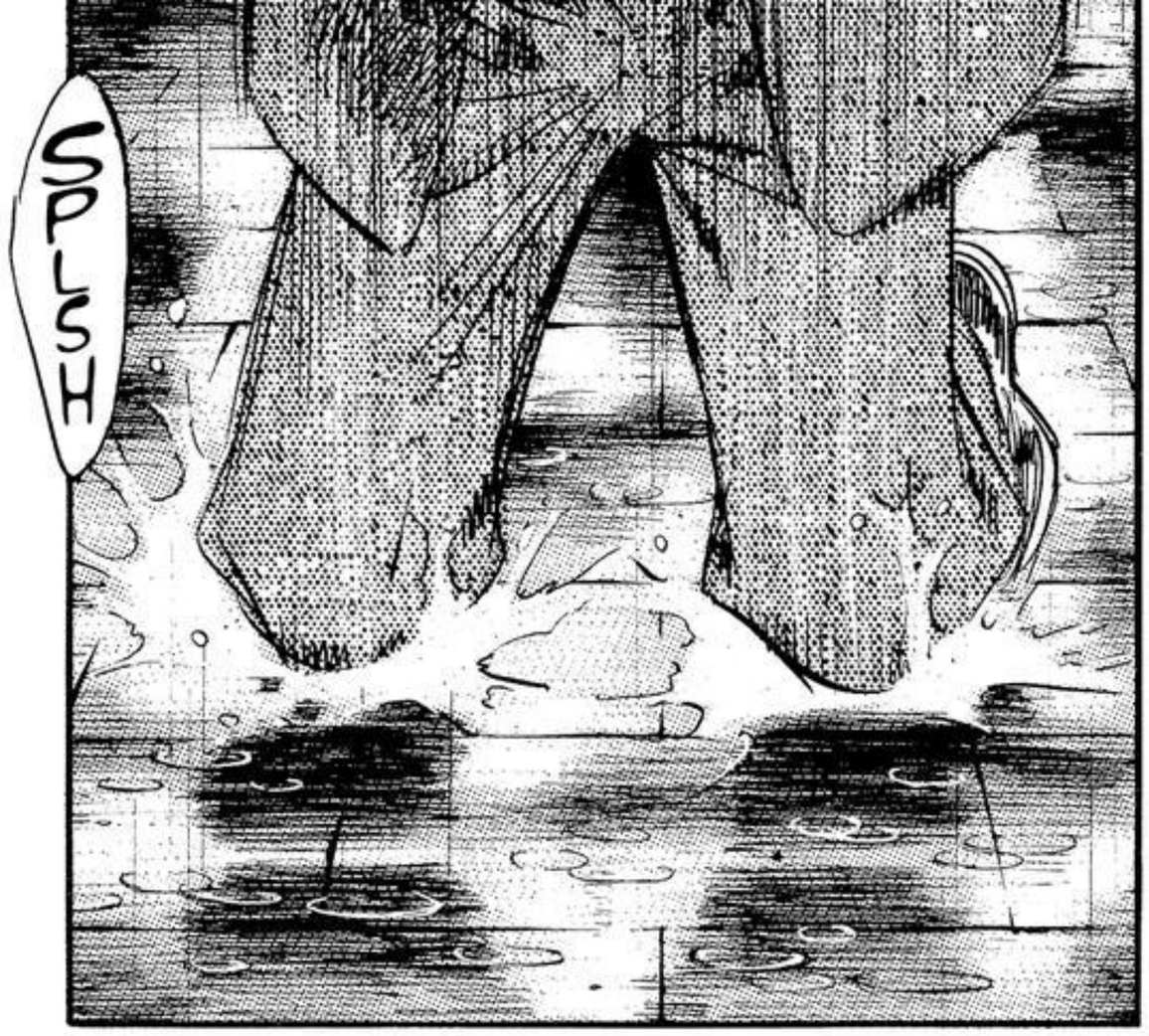

KASHANG

I ONCE HAD A CHILD LIKE YOU...

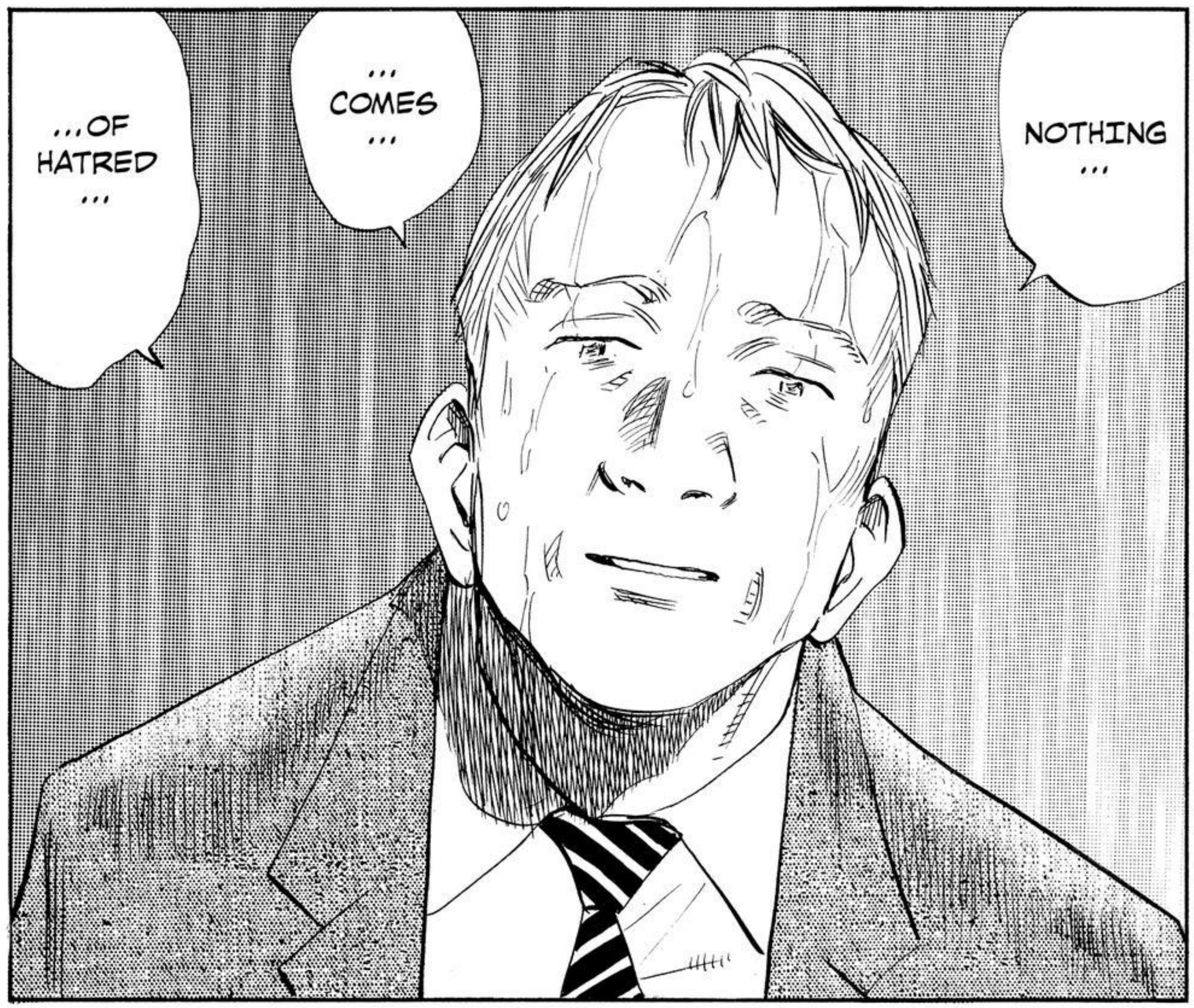
!!

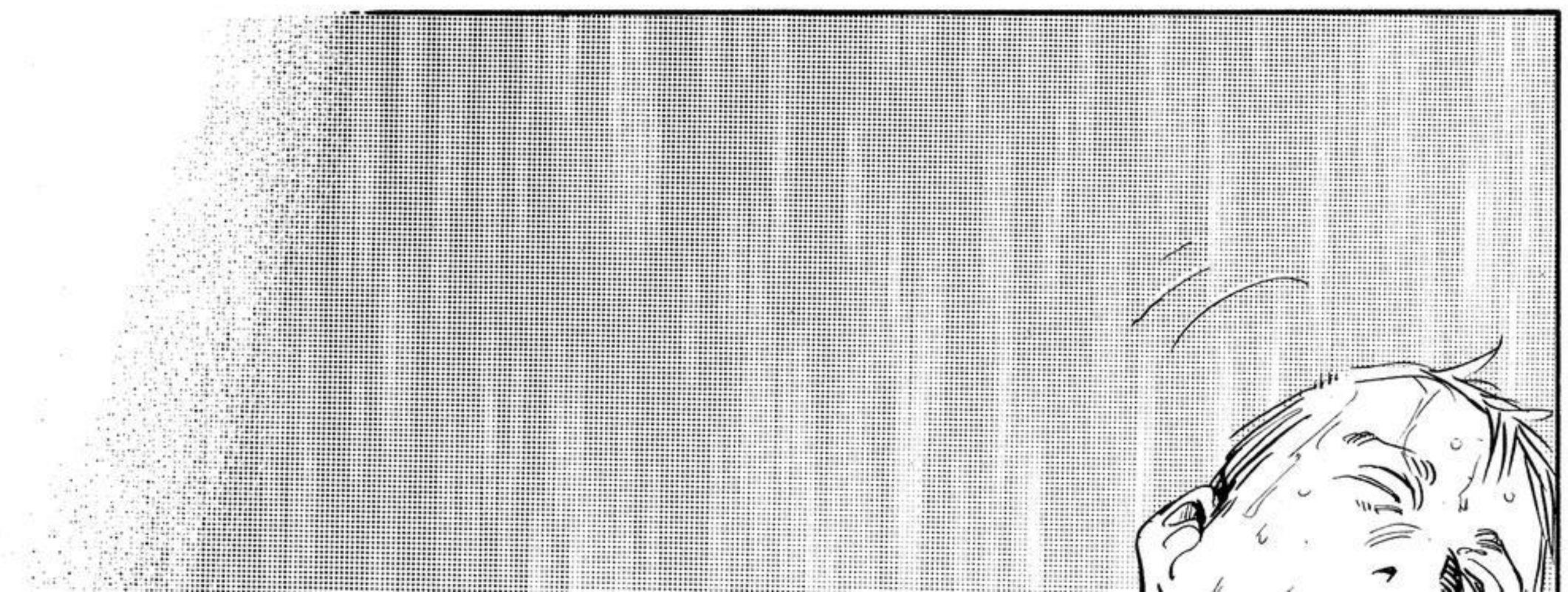


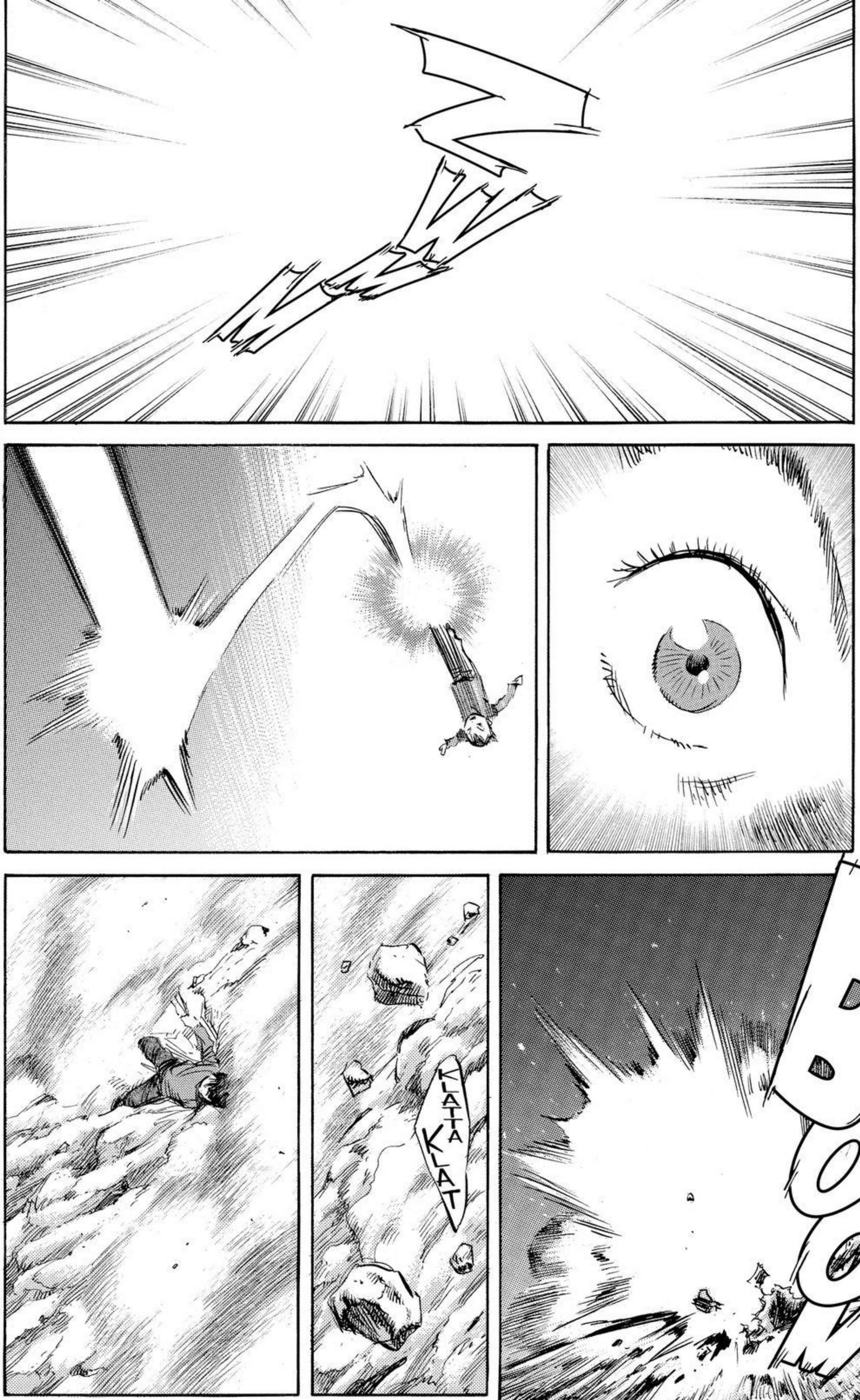

WHAT HAPPENED? ALI...
ALI!


SPLSH

NOTHING COMES OF THIS...


...OF HATRED ...
... COMES ...
NOTHING ...




KLATTA
KLAT
BOOM

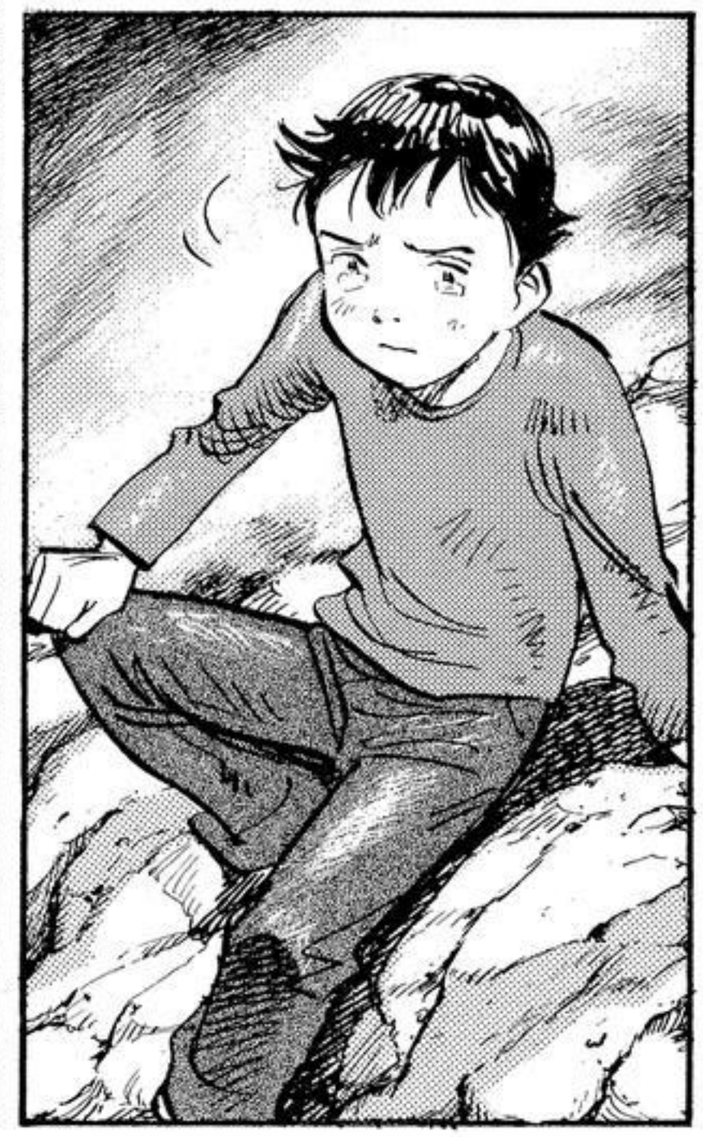
UGH...

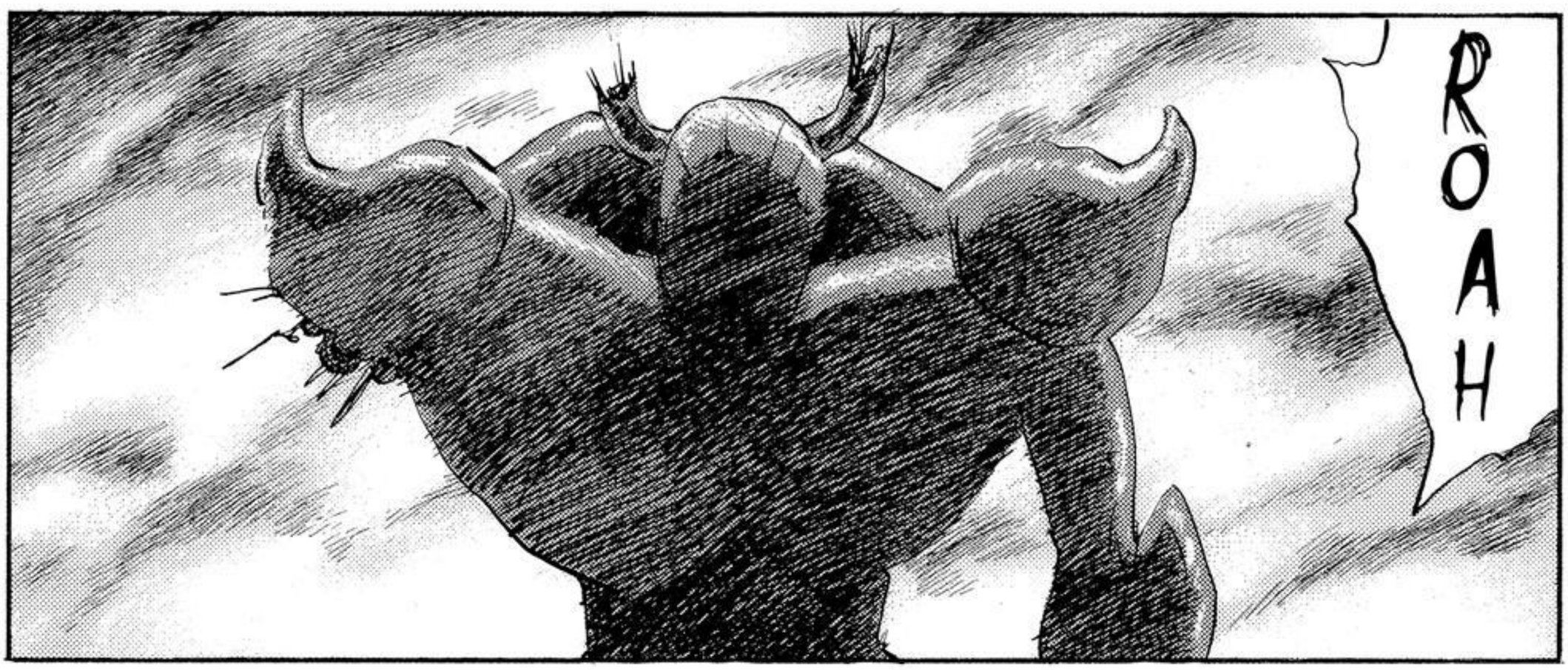
UNGH...

AGH...

GESICHT
...

IT'S JUST
LIKE YOU SAY,
GESICHT...

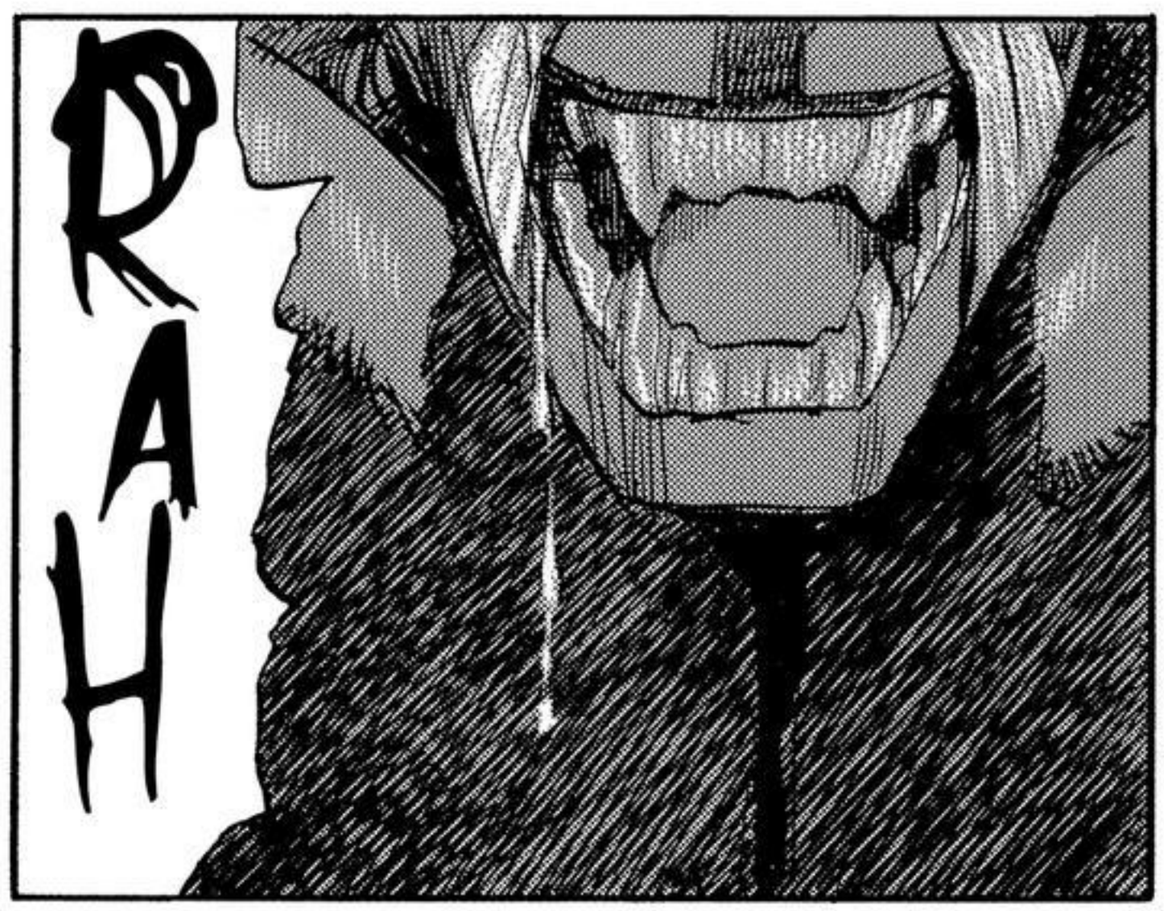


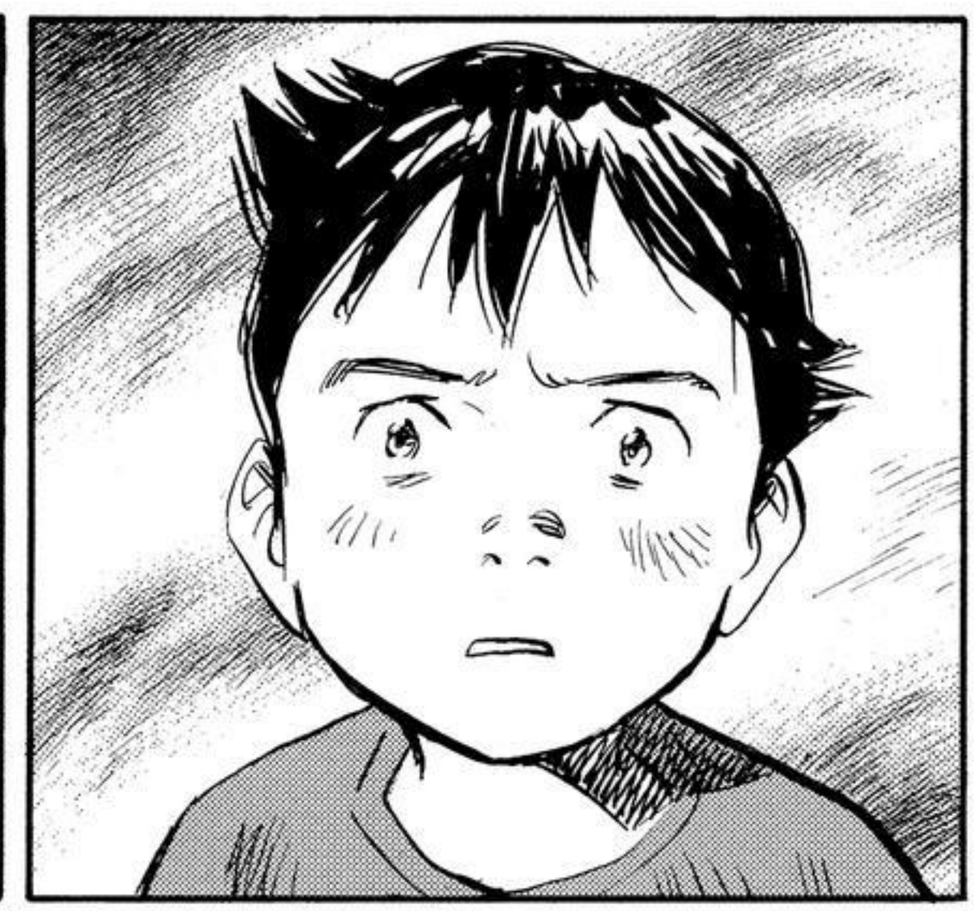

ROAH

ROAH

ROAH
WHAT IS THIS...?

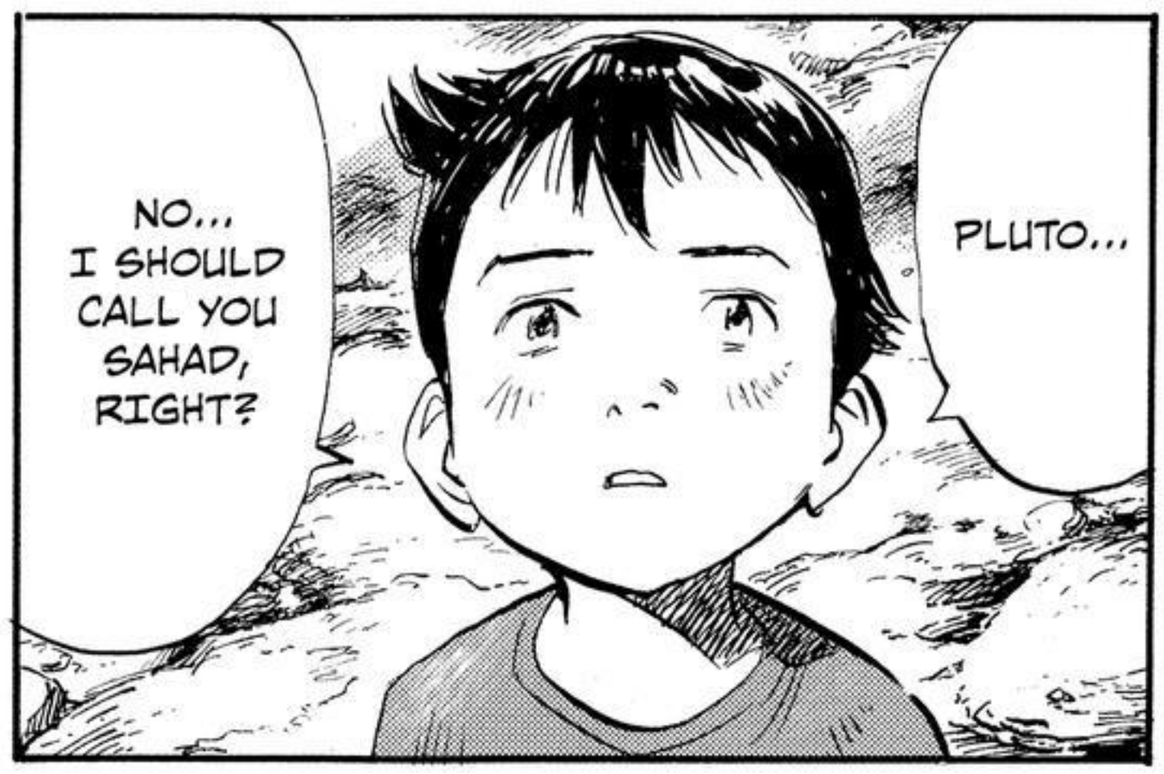
PLUTO...

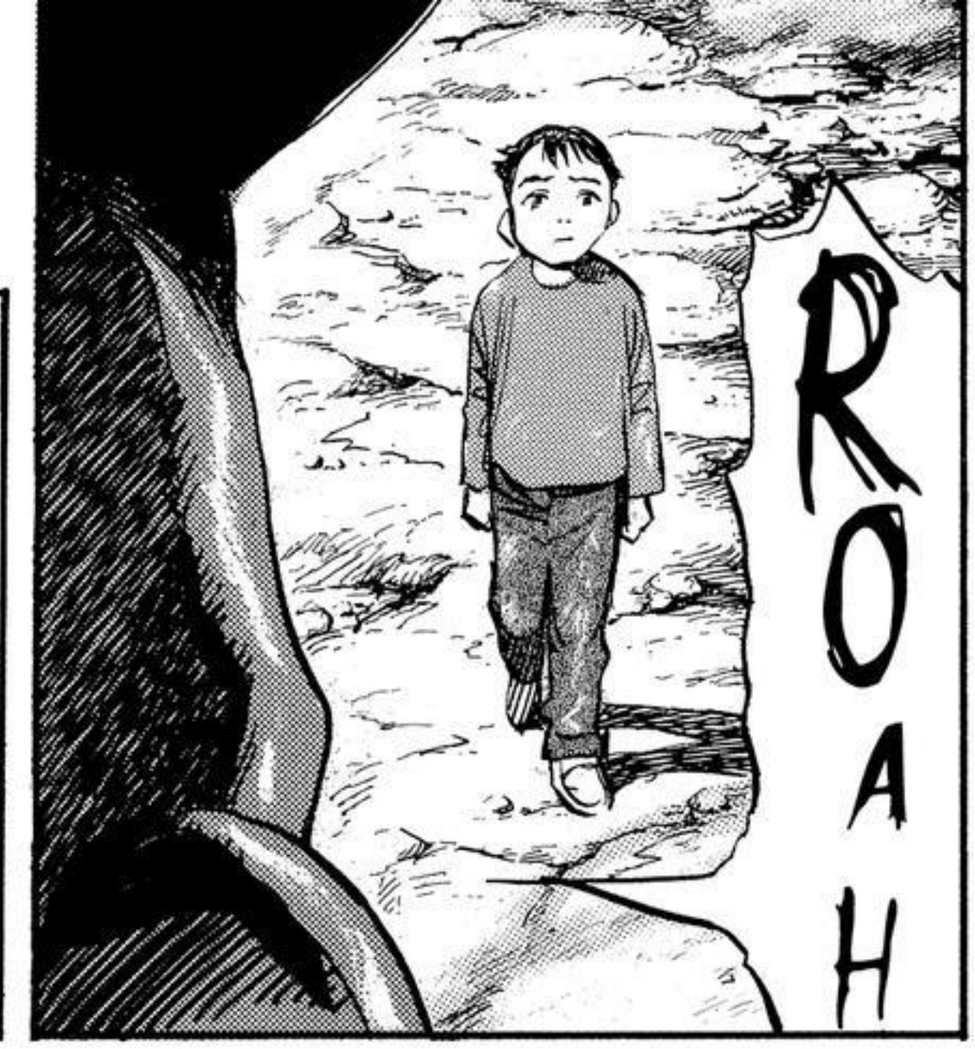

RAH



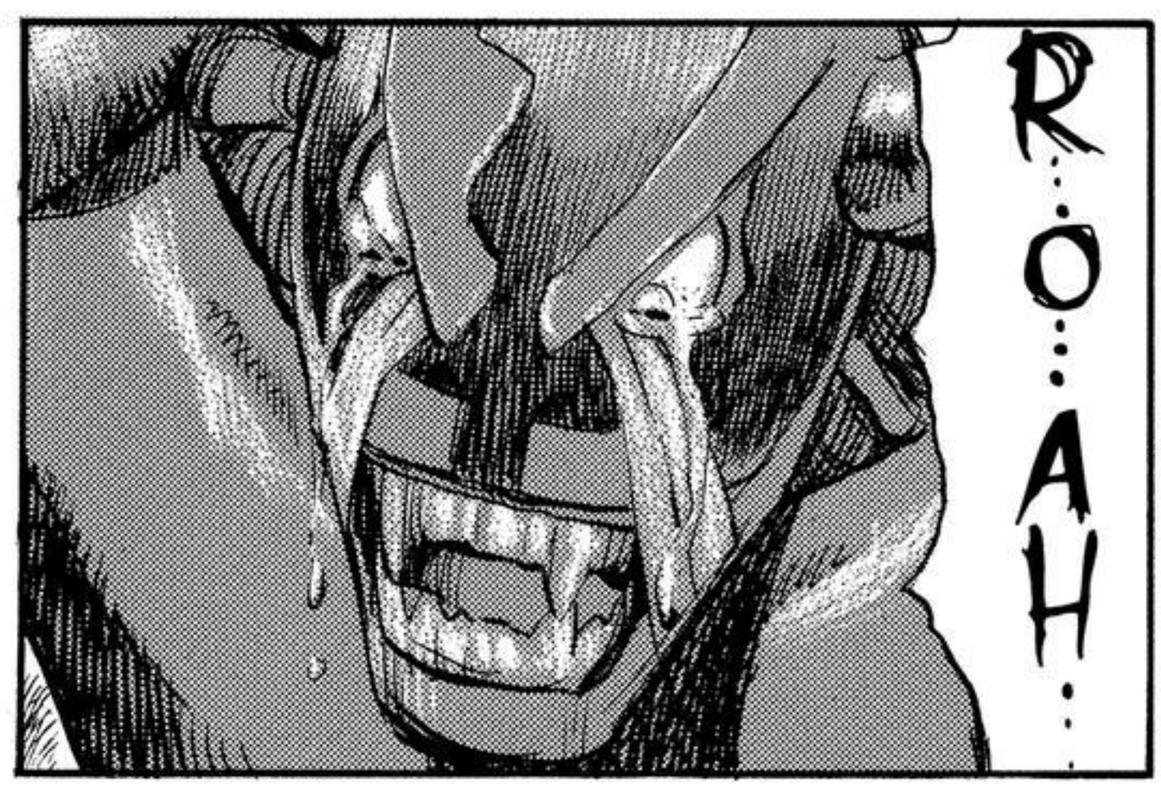
WHAT IS THIS?!!

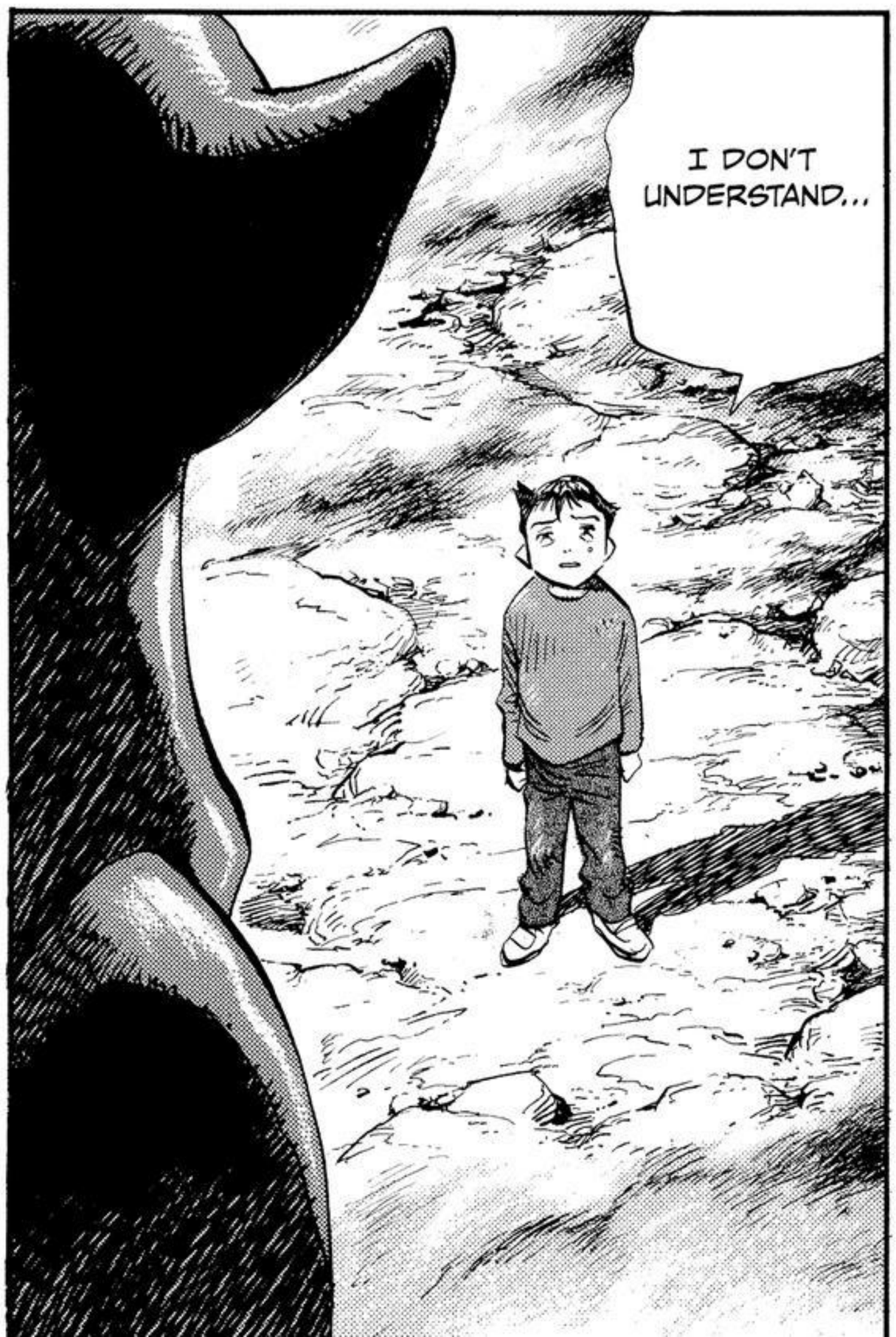
ROAARH

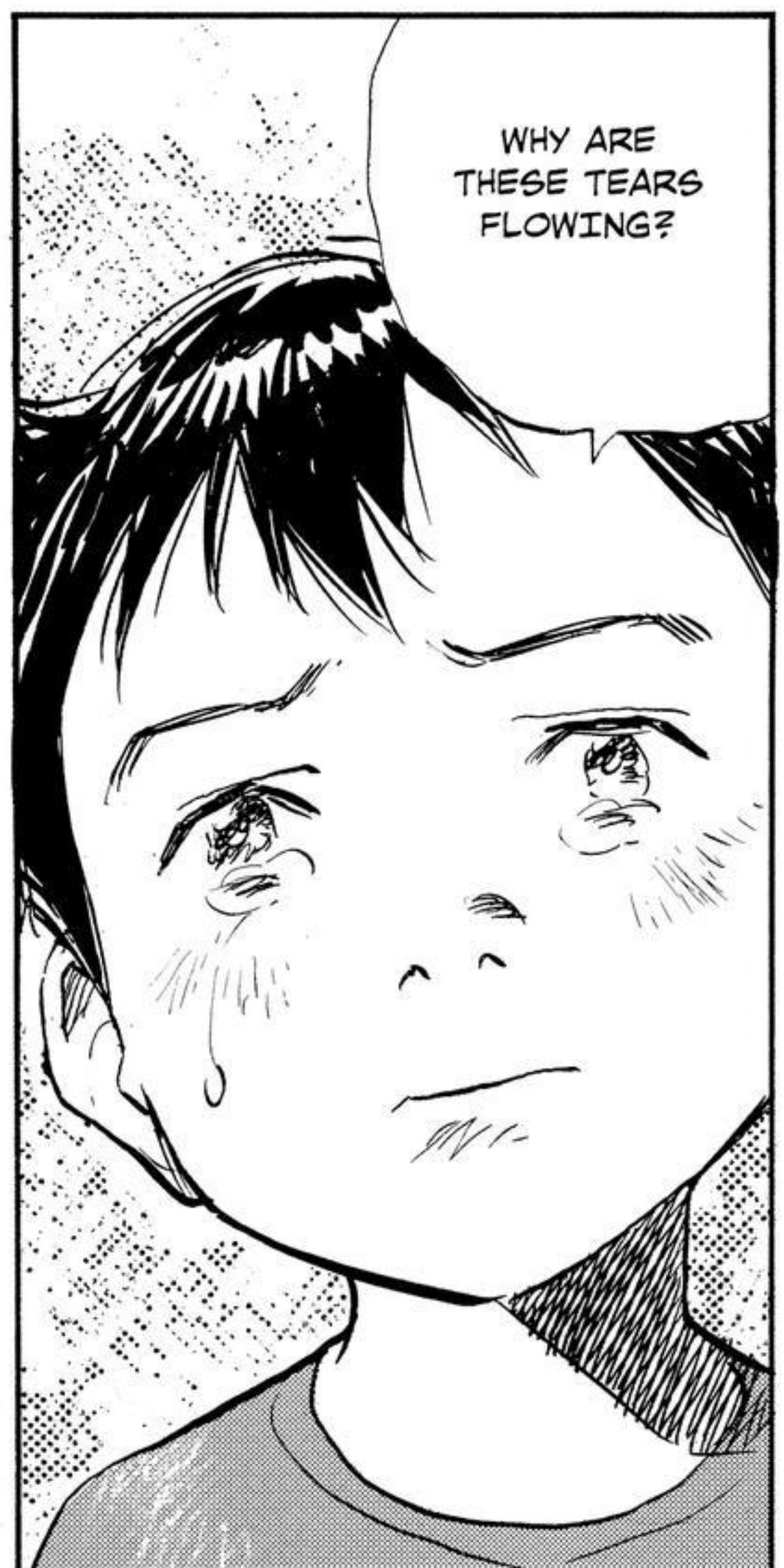

NO... I SHOULD CALL YOU SAHAD, RIGHT?
PLUTO...


ROAH

I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENING EITHER...


R...O...AH...


I DON'T UNDERSTAND...


WHY ARE THESE TEARS FLOWING?

GROAAH

Act 63 WISH UPON A STAR

WE HAVE AN EMERGENCY HOSTAGE SITUATION AT THE INDUSTRIAL WASTE COLLECTION SITE IN DISTRICT F-31, SECTOR 1814!

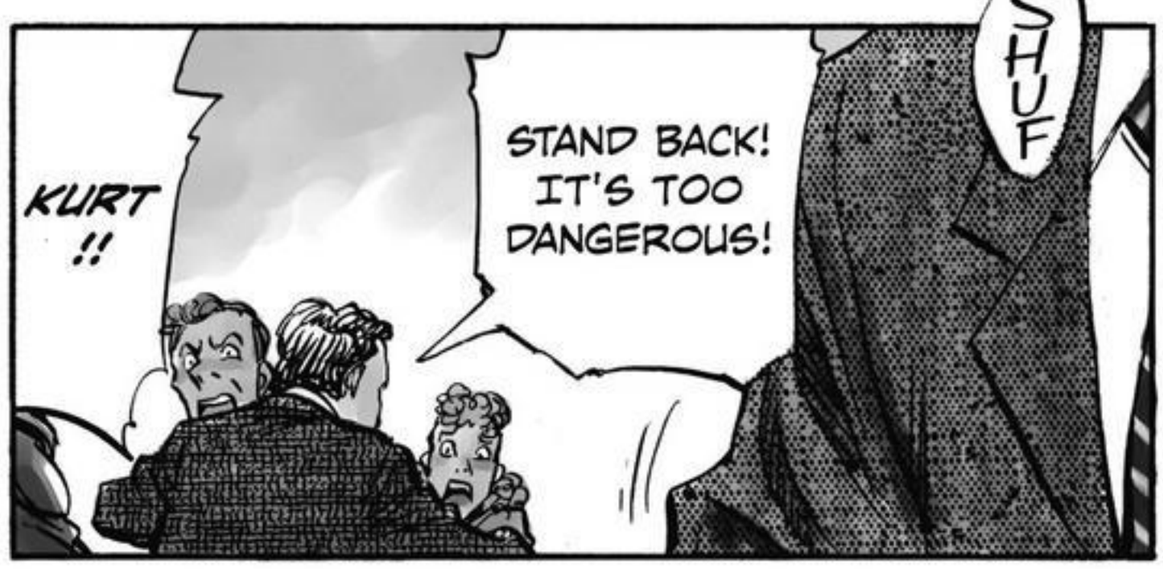
TWO PERPETRATORS FLED AFTER AN ATTEMPTED ROBBERY. HUMAN BYSTANDERS WERE INJURED IN THE INCIDENT. ONE SUSPECT IS NOW IN CUSTODY!

HE IS REPORTED TO HAVE TAKEN A YOUNG BOY HOSTAGE!
THE OTHER IS ARMED, DANGEROUS, AND AT LARGE!
I REPEAT, WE HAVE AN EMERGENCY SITUATION IN DISTRICT F-31, SECTOR 1814!
Act 63
WISH UPON A STAR

FWD FWD FWD FWD
FWD FWD FWD

TELL THOSE COPTERS TO BACK OFF! THEY'LL PROVOKE THE PERP!
SQUADS B AND C, MOVE 'ROUND TO THE SOUTH!!
POLIZEI
PO

PLEASE TRY TO CALM DOWN. JUST LET US HANDLE THIS...
YOU'VE GOT TO SAVE MY SON KURT!! PLEASE!
PO
LIZEI


KURT !!
STAND BACK! IT'S TOO DANGEROUS!
SHUF

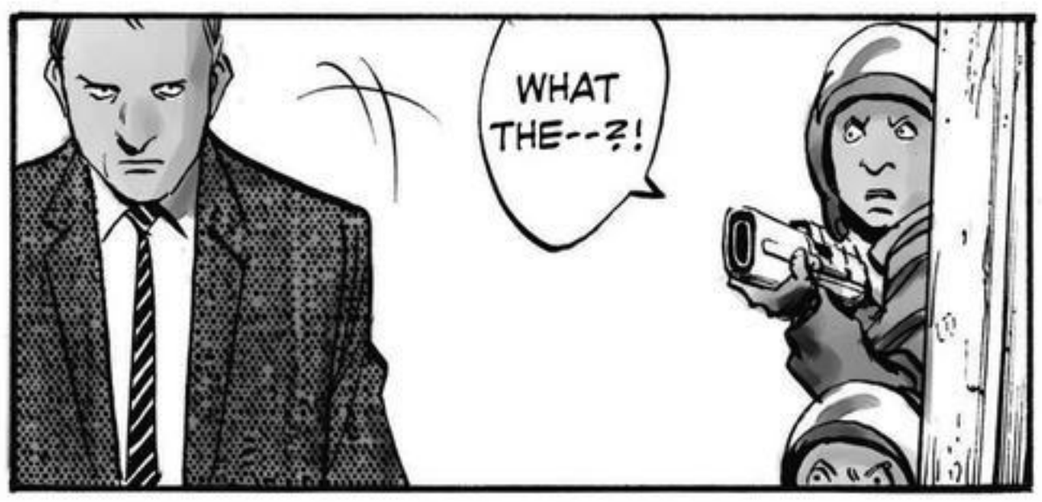
IF ANYTHING SHOULD HAPPEN TO KURT...
PLEASE! SAVE MY SON!!

SHUF
UM...
WHERE'S OUR BACK-UP?!

WHAT'S THE SITUATION HERE?
0028-8099-24533
GESICHT OF EUROPOL...

A RECOILLESS MILITARY SPEC MMG!!
WHAT'S HE ARMED WITH?

HE KNOCKED OFF TWO PATROLBOTS BEFORE DUCKING IN HERE.
THE PERP SHOWS NO WILLINGNESS TO NEGOTIATE!


WHAT THE--?!

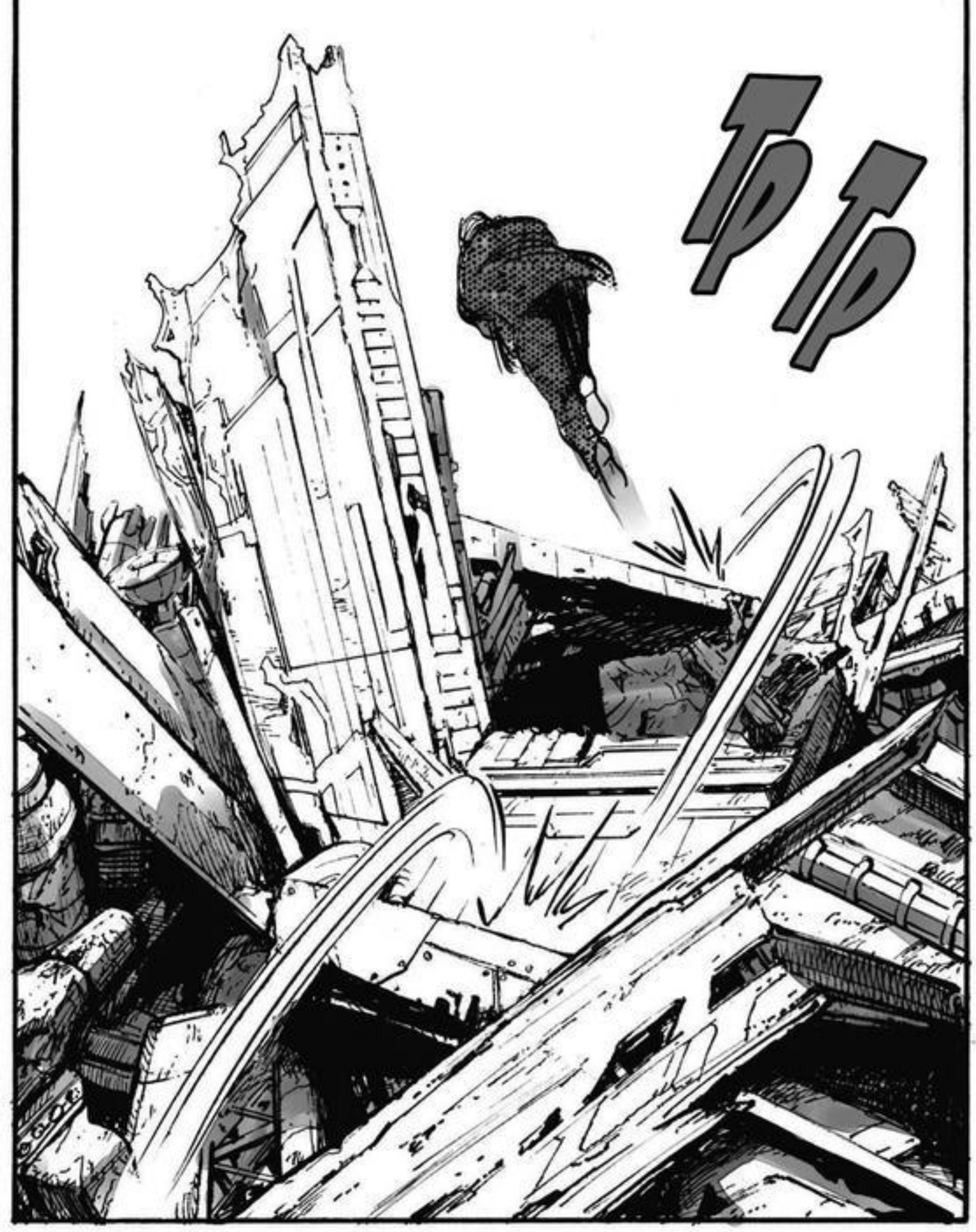
HE'S HOLED UP OVER THERE.

BAM
BUM
ARGH!!

TP TP...

HEY!

TP


TP TP

SHUT UP, YOU LITTLE BRAT!!
WAHH!!

I SAID SHUT UP!!
WAHH!!

S... STAY AWAY!!
WAHH!!

!!
DROP THE GUN!

BWAHH!!
I'LL SHOOT HIM! I'LL DO IT, I SWEAR!!

DROP THE GUN AND PUT YOUR HANDS UP!

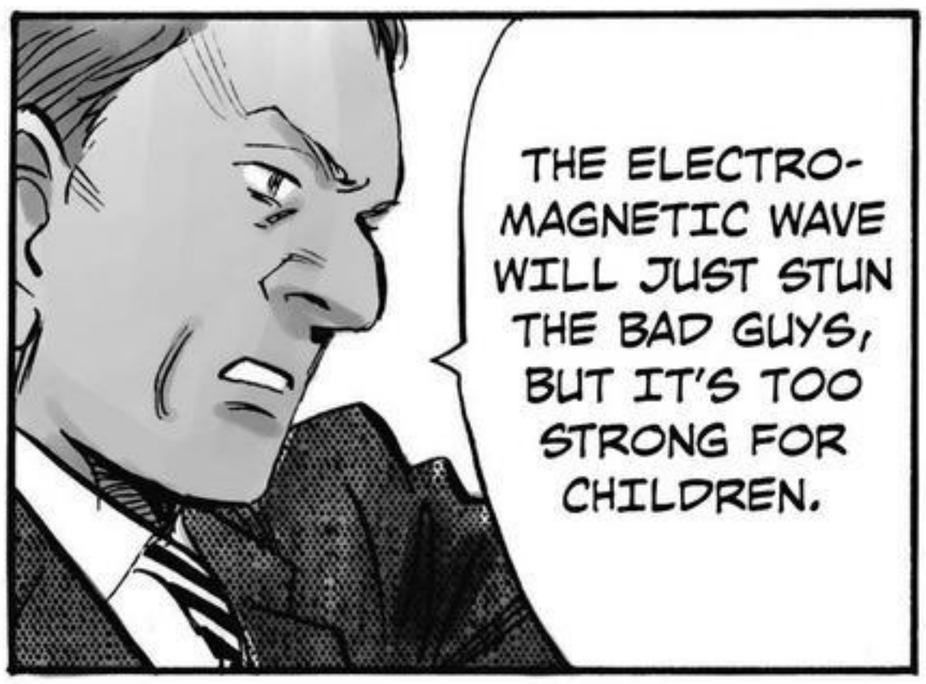
I CAN FIRE THIS ELECTRO-MAGNETIC GUN SO IT WON'T HIT YOU. IT'LL ONLY HIT THE BAD GUY!
I'M A ROBOT POLICEMAN, KURT...

KURT...

WAHH!

HOW-EVER...

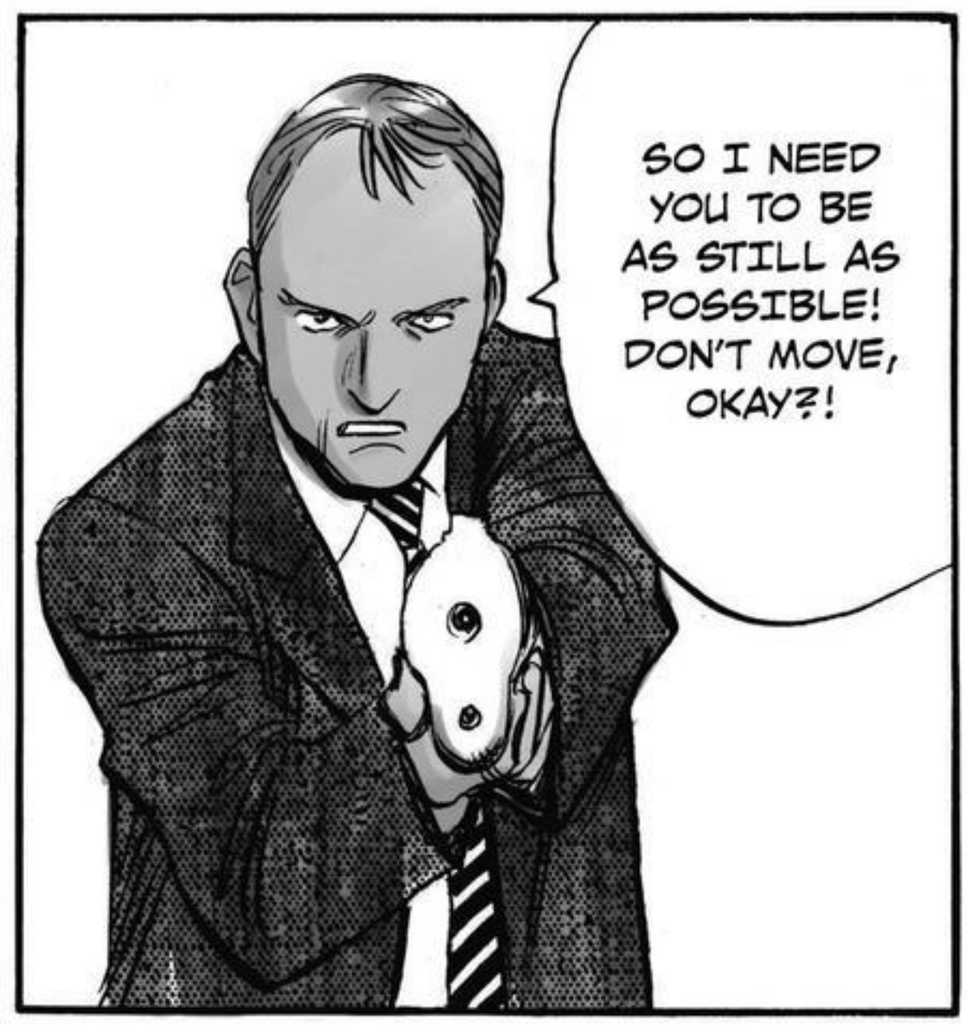
AIEE!!
HEY! DIDN'T YOU HEAR ME?!!


THE ELECTRO-MAGNETIC WAVE WILL JUST STUN THE BAD GUYS, BUT IT'S TOO STRONG FOR CHILDREN.

!!
IF YOU MOVE, KURT, I MIGHT ACCIDENTALLY HIT YOU...

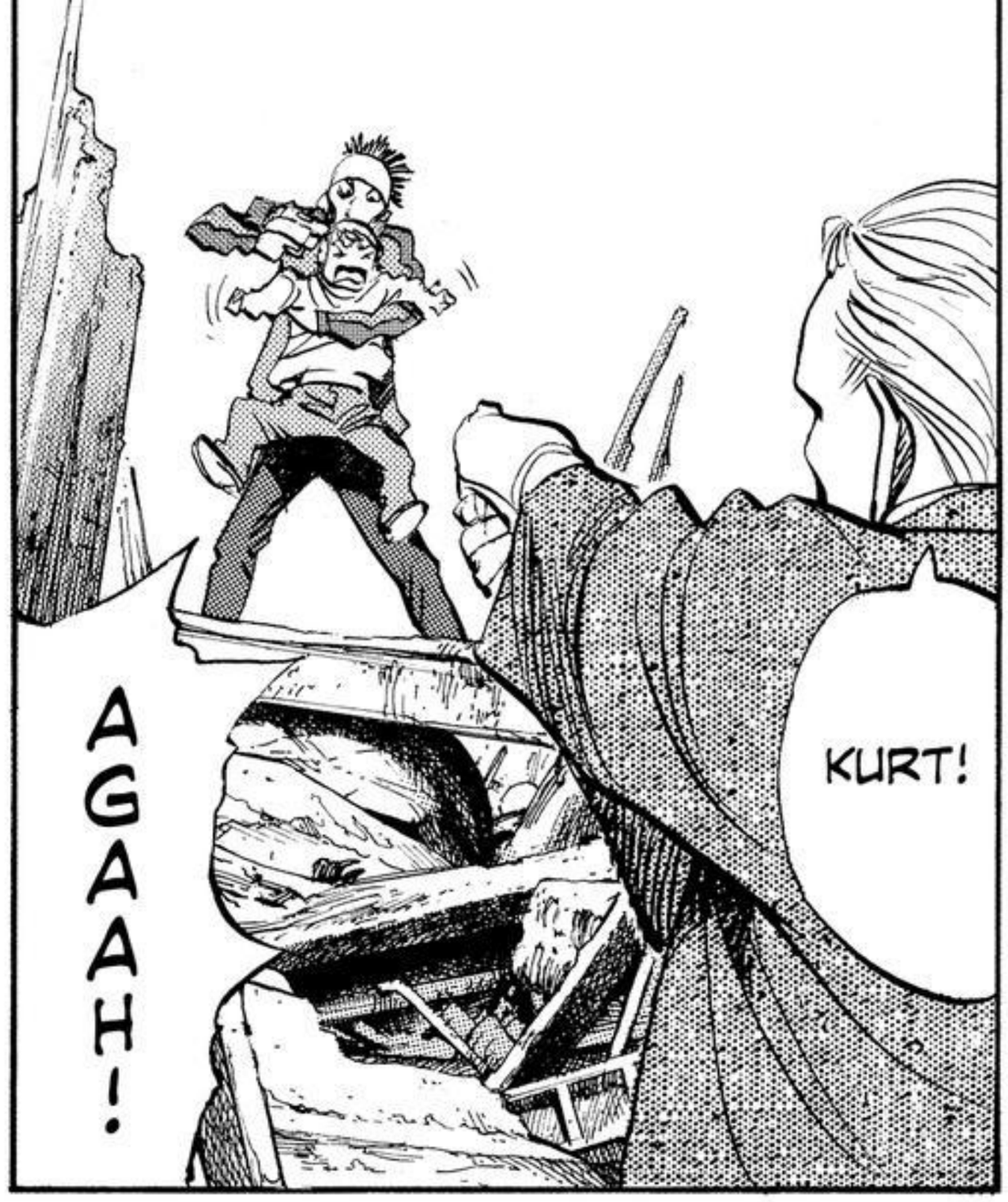
...

AUH...


SO I NEED YOU TO BE AS STILL AS POSSIBLE! DON'T MOVE, OKAY?!

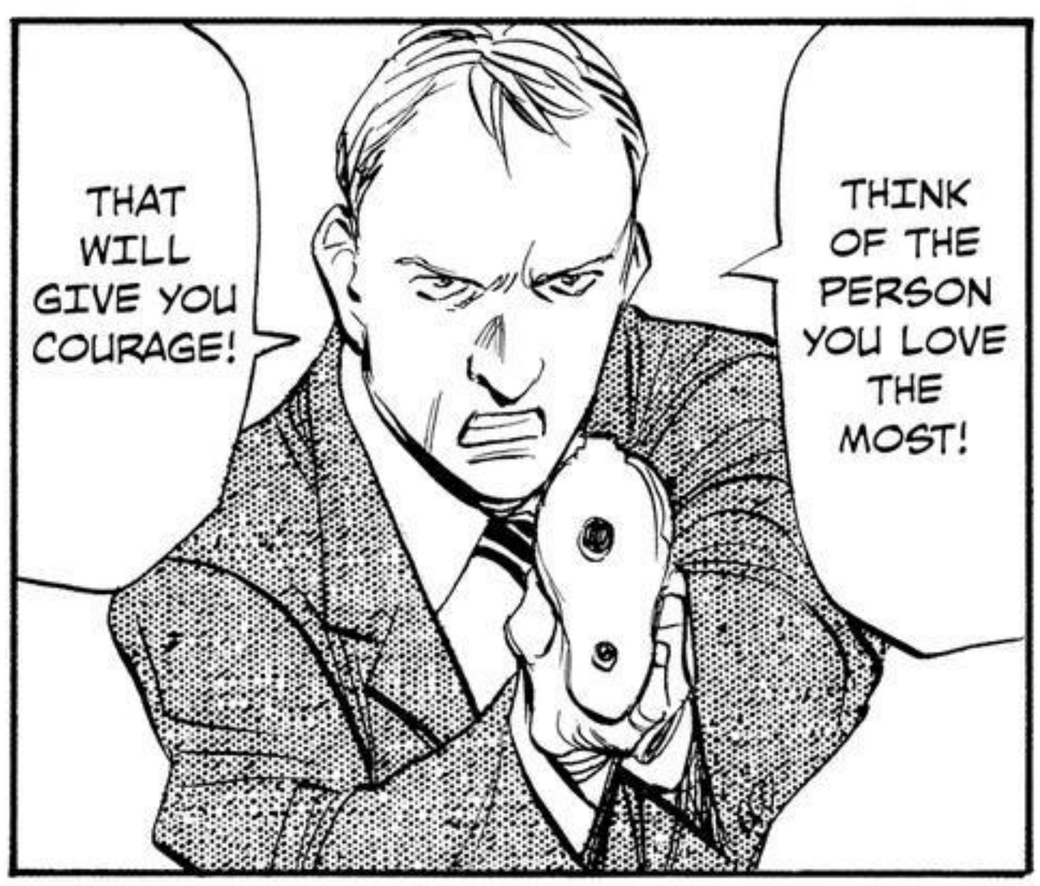
8

AGAHH!!


AGAAH!
KURT!

YOU CAN DO IT...
IT'LL BE OKAY.

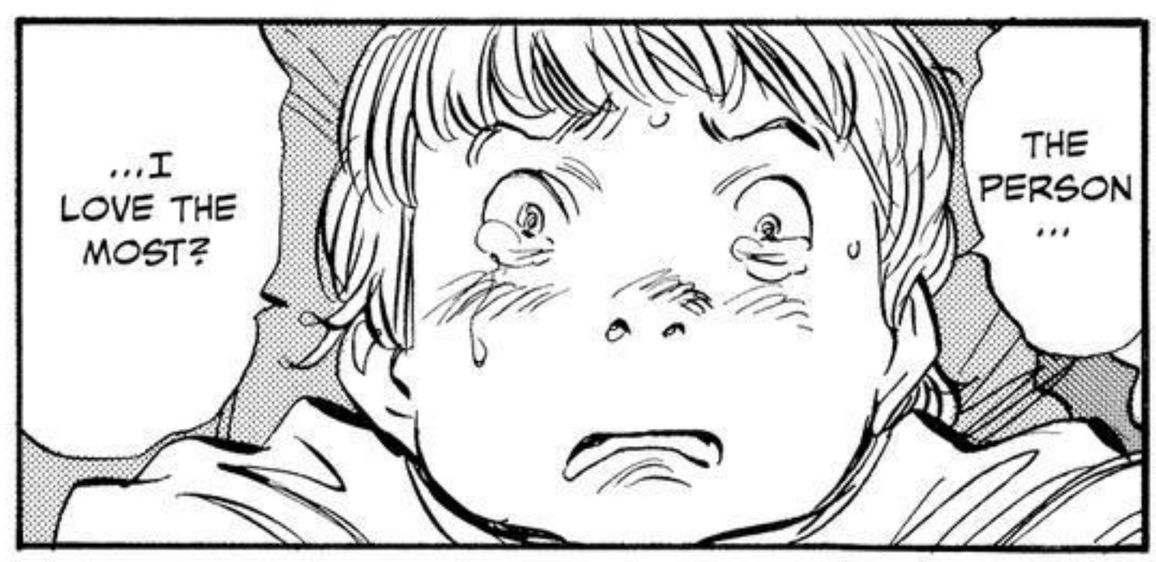
URGH!


THAT WILL GIVE YOU COURAGE!
THINK OF THE PERSON YOU LOVE THE MOST!

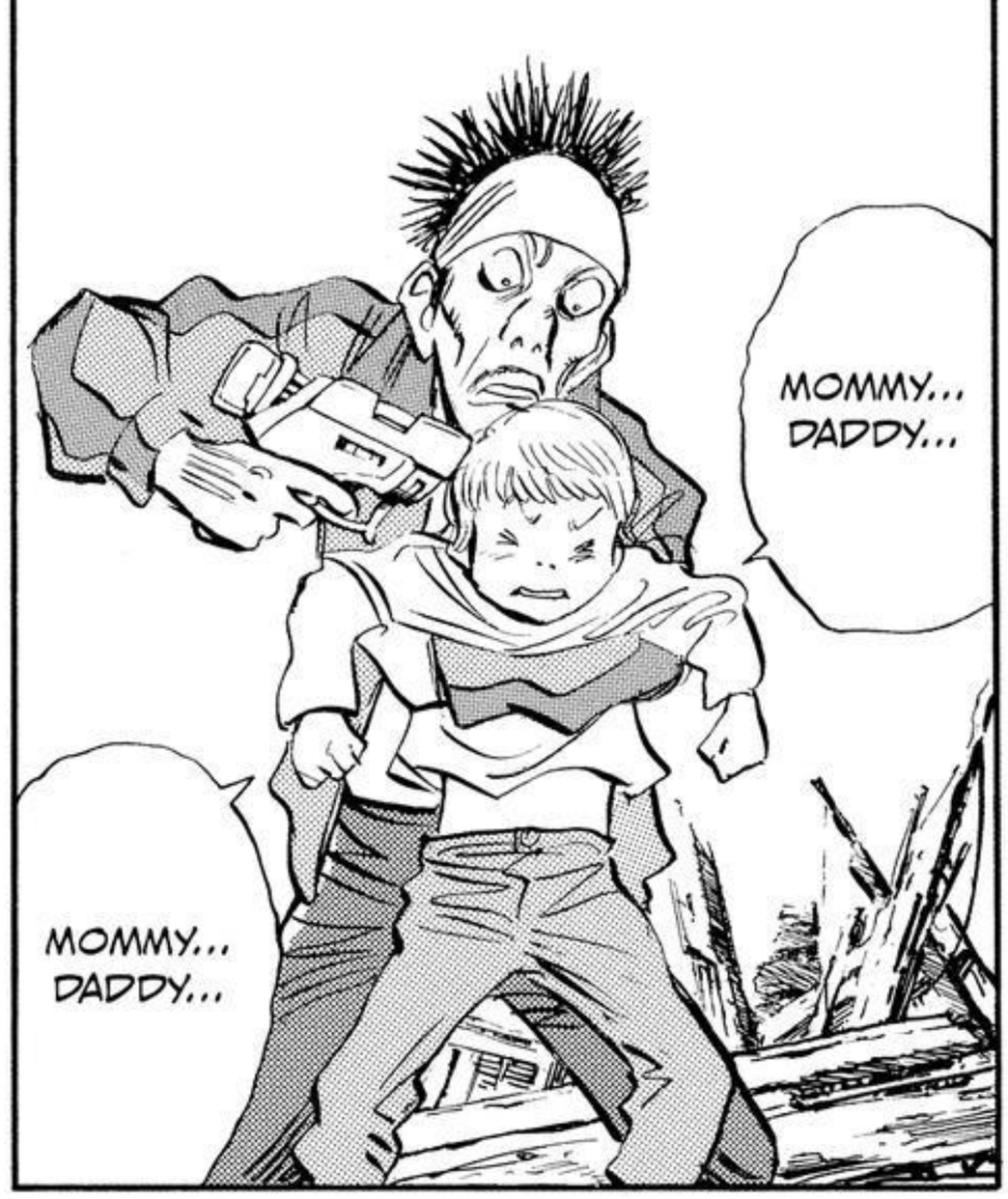
!!

KURT!!

IF YA DON'T LEAVE RIGHT NOW, I'M GONNA BLOW HIS HEAD OFF!!

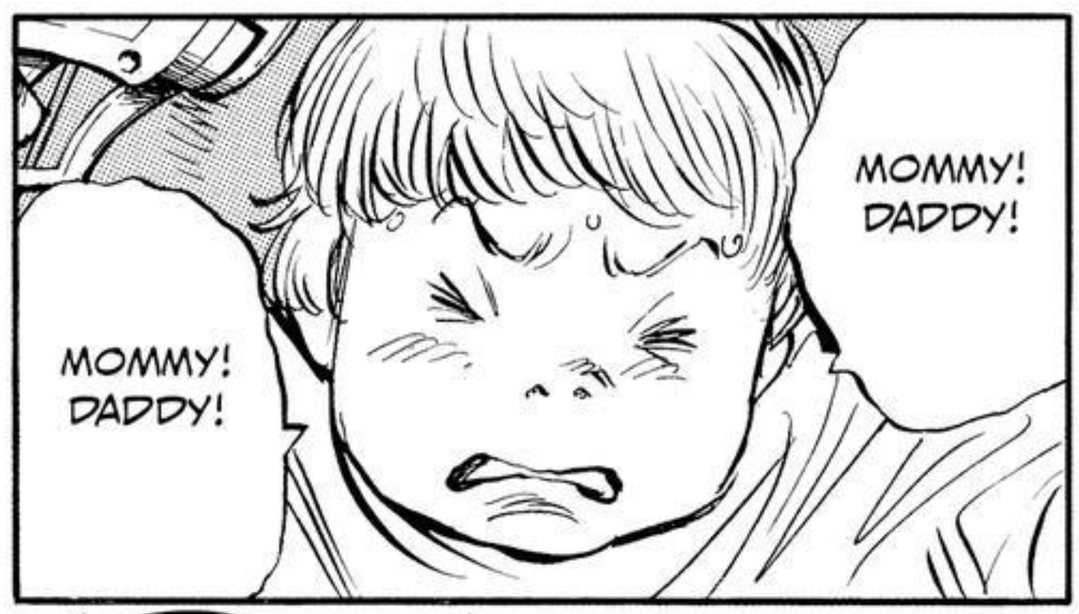

...I LOVE THE MOST?
THE PERSON ...

THINK ABOUT IT.
THAT'S RIGHT.


MOMMY...
DADDY...
MOMMY...
DADDY...

DADDY
...
MOMMY
...

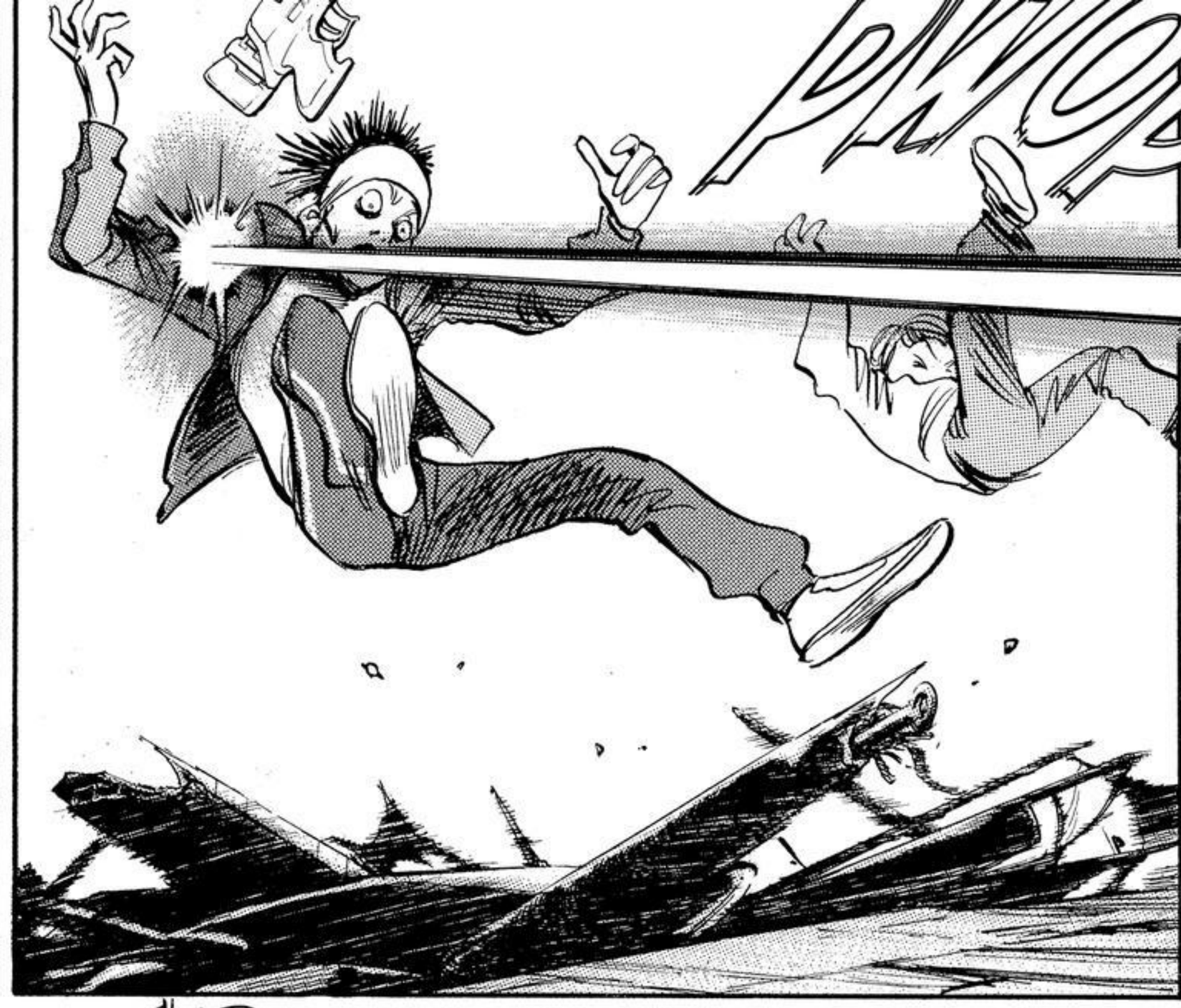
THERE
YOU GO
...

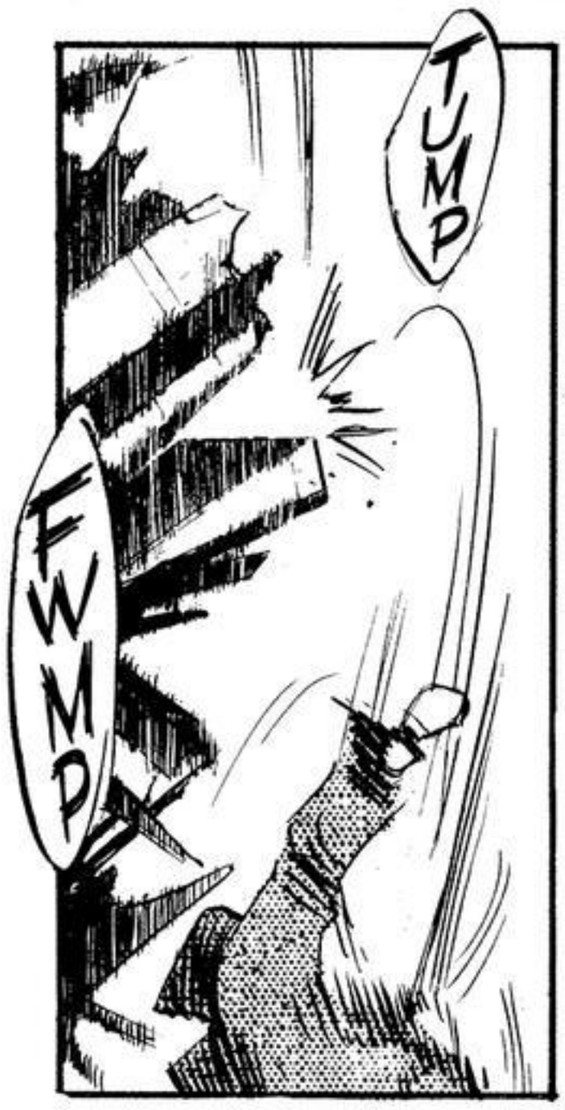

MOMMY!
DADDY!
MOMMY!
DADDY!

YOU'RE
A BRAVE
BOY,
KURT!

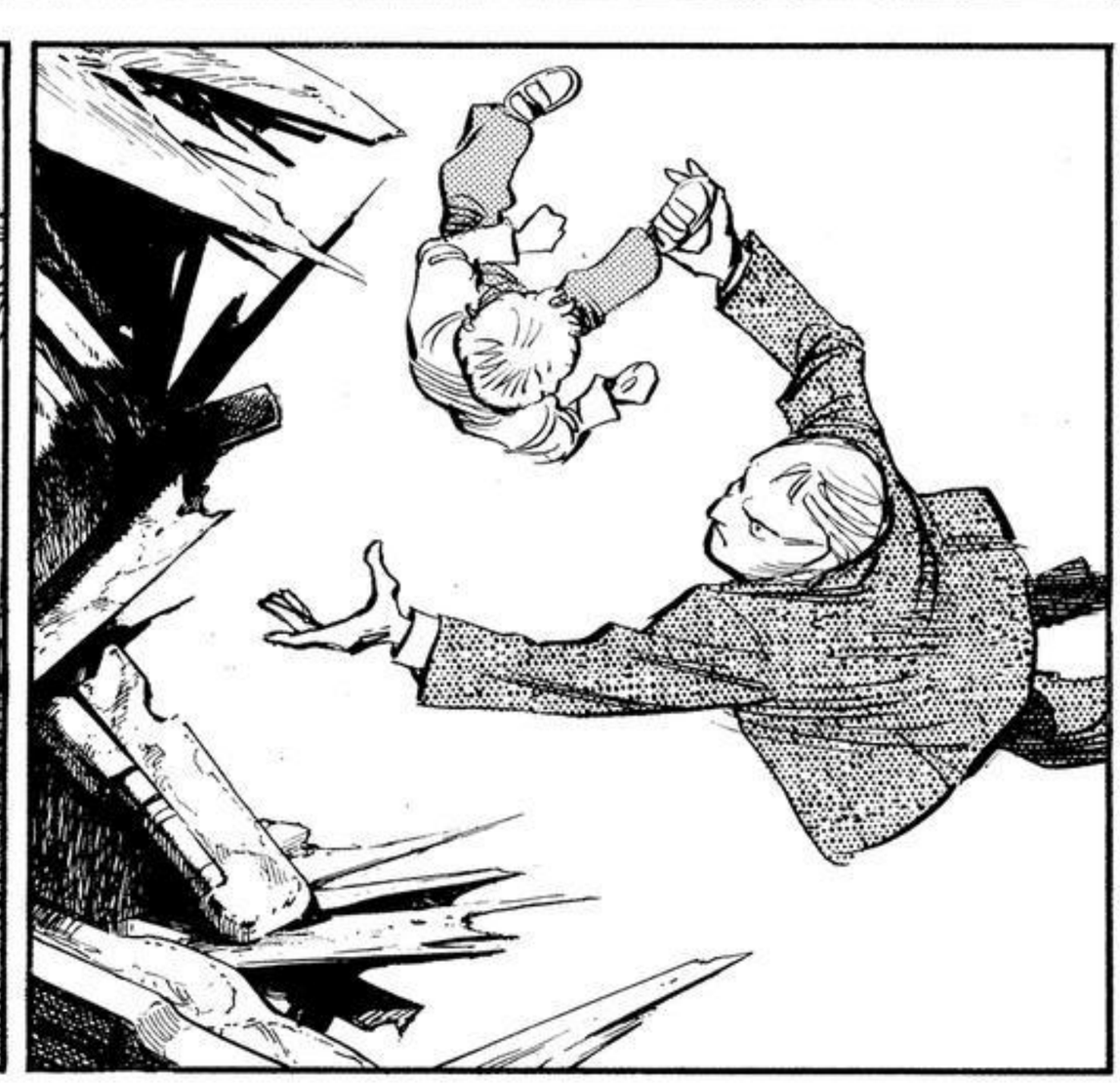
BANG

YAIII!!


PHOP


JUMP
FWMP

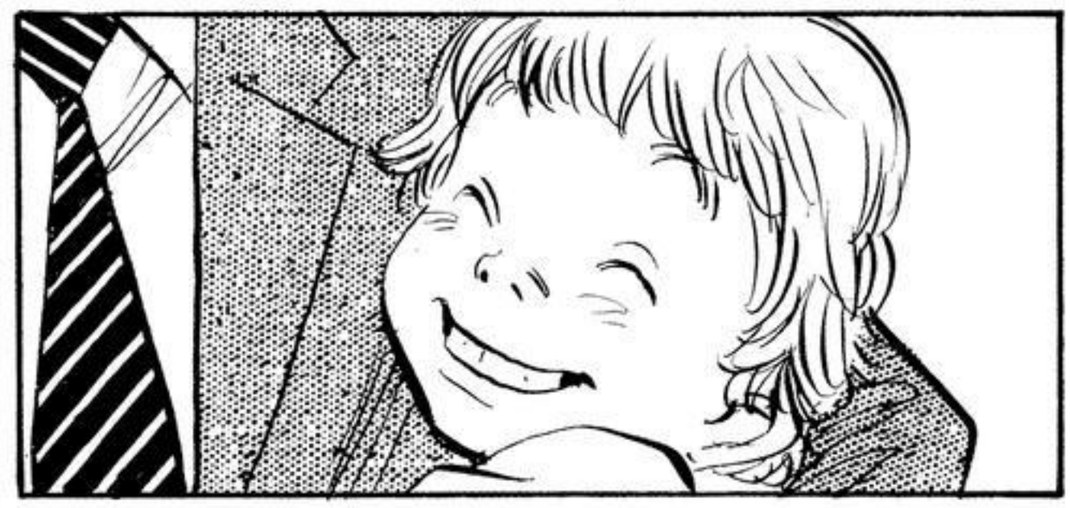
GRB



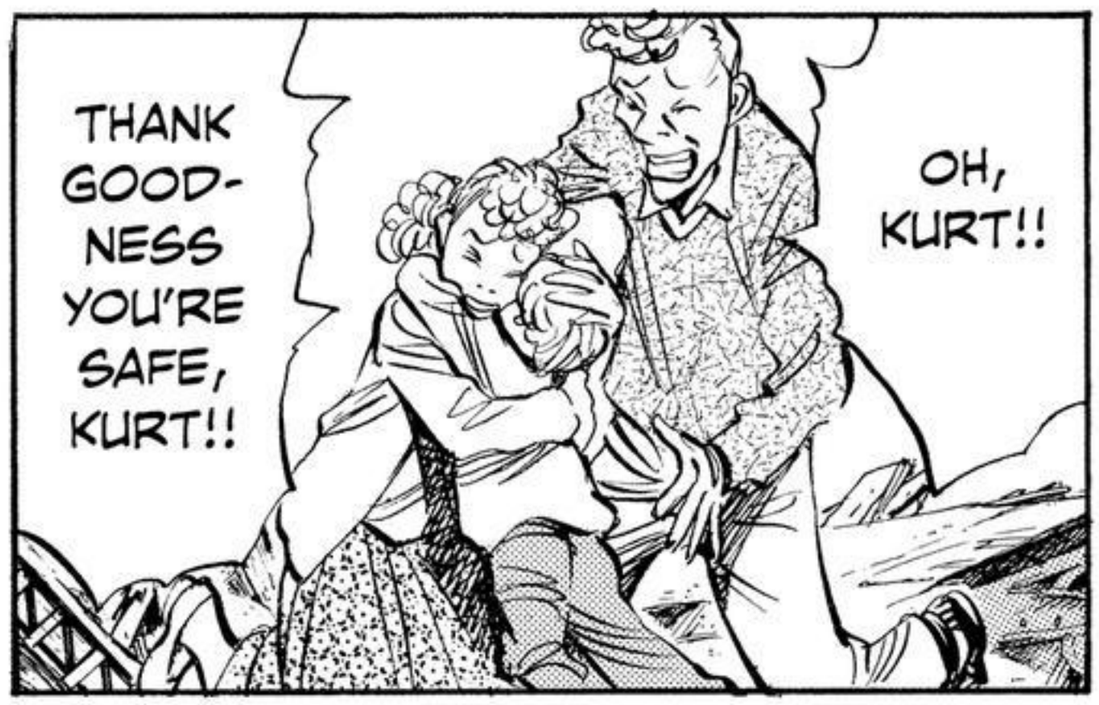
WE'VE SECURED THE SUSPECT!!

KURT!! KURT...!!

YOU DID GOOD, KURT!

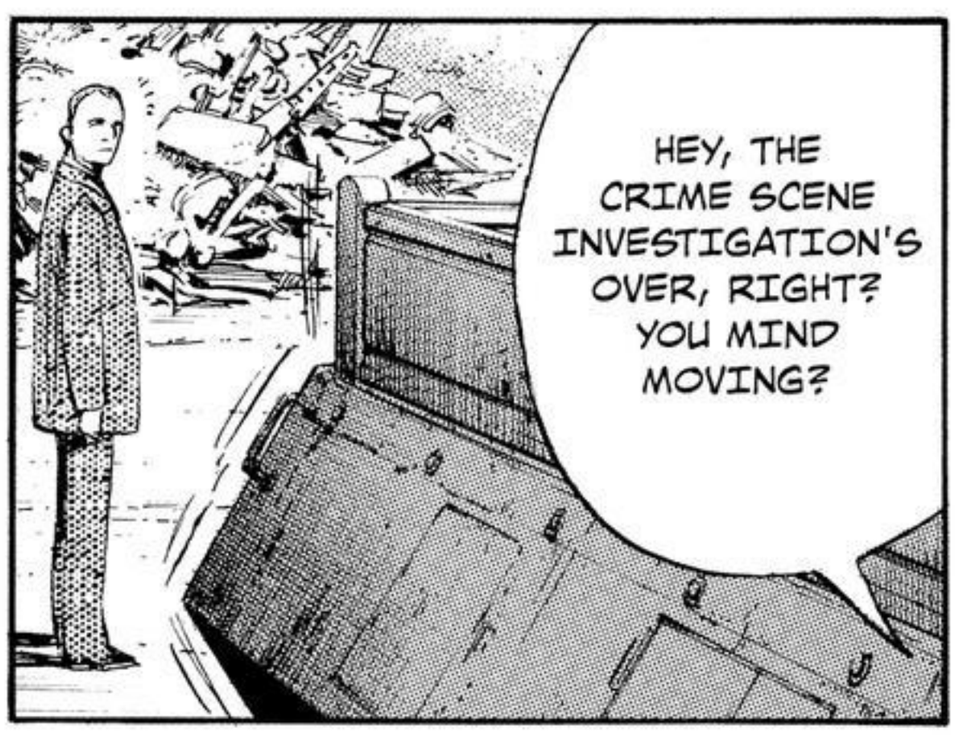


WE'RE NEVER LETTING YOU OUTTA SIGHT!!


THANK GOOD-NESS YOU'RE SAFE, KURT!!
OH, KURT!!

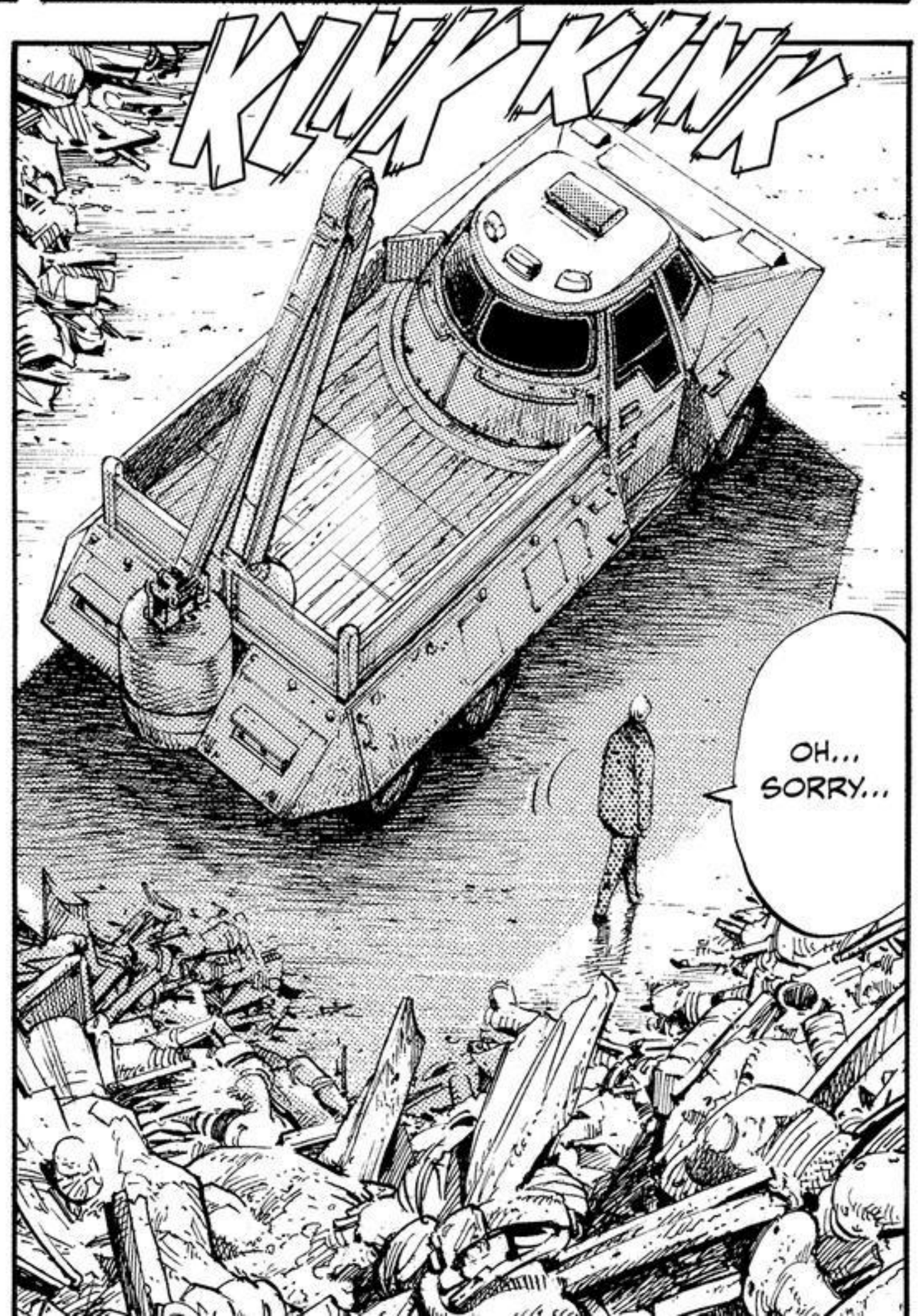
WE'RE KEEPING YOU WITH US FOREVER 'TIL THE END OF THE WORLD!

...


HEY, THE CRIME SCENE INVESTIGATION'S OVER, RIGHT? YOU MIND MOVING?

...'TIL THE END OF THE WORLD...
KEEPING YOU WITH US FOREVER...

WHY'D THAT IDIOT HAVE TO MAKE HIS LAST STAND HERE?
RUINED AN ENTIRE DAY OF BUSINESS ...

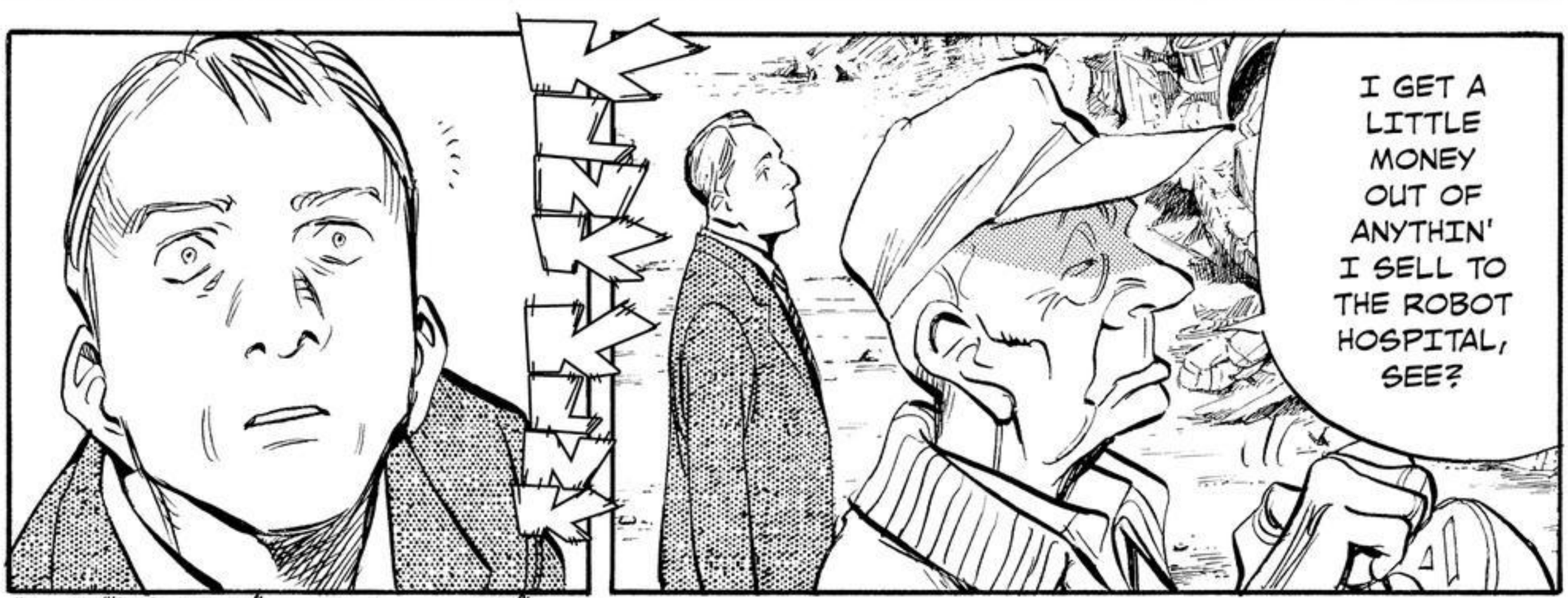

KLNK KLNK
OH... SORRY...

KLNK KLNK

KLIK
KLIK
KLIK

I GOTTA CHECK TO SEE IF THERE'S ANYTHING WORTH RECYCLIN' B'FORE I CHUCK IT IN THE PRESS.

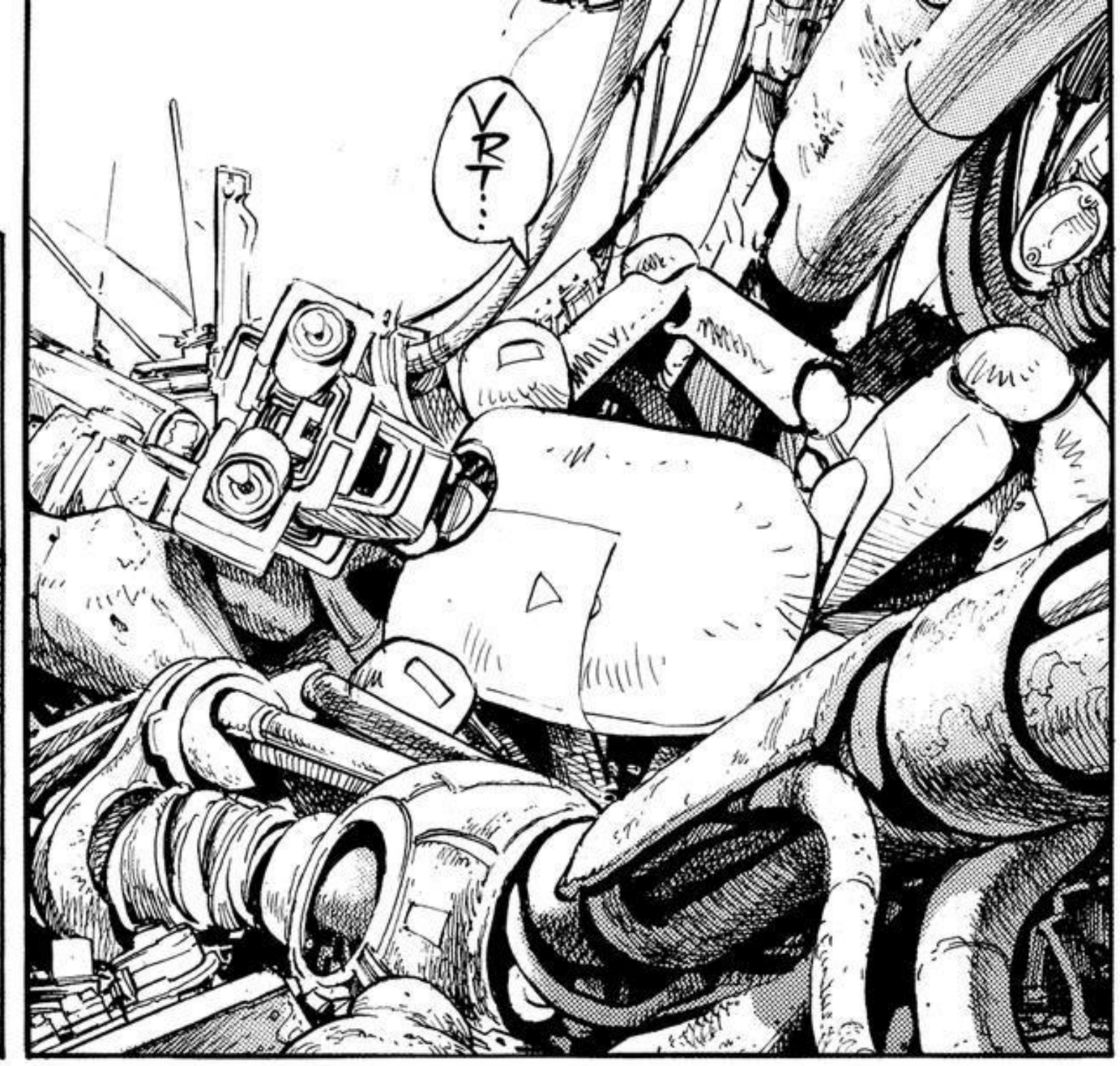
KRSHH
KLINKKKK

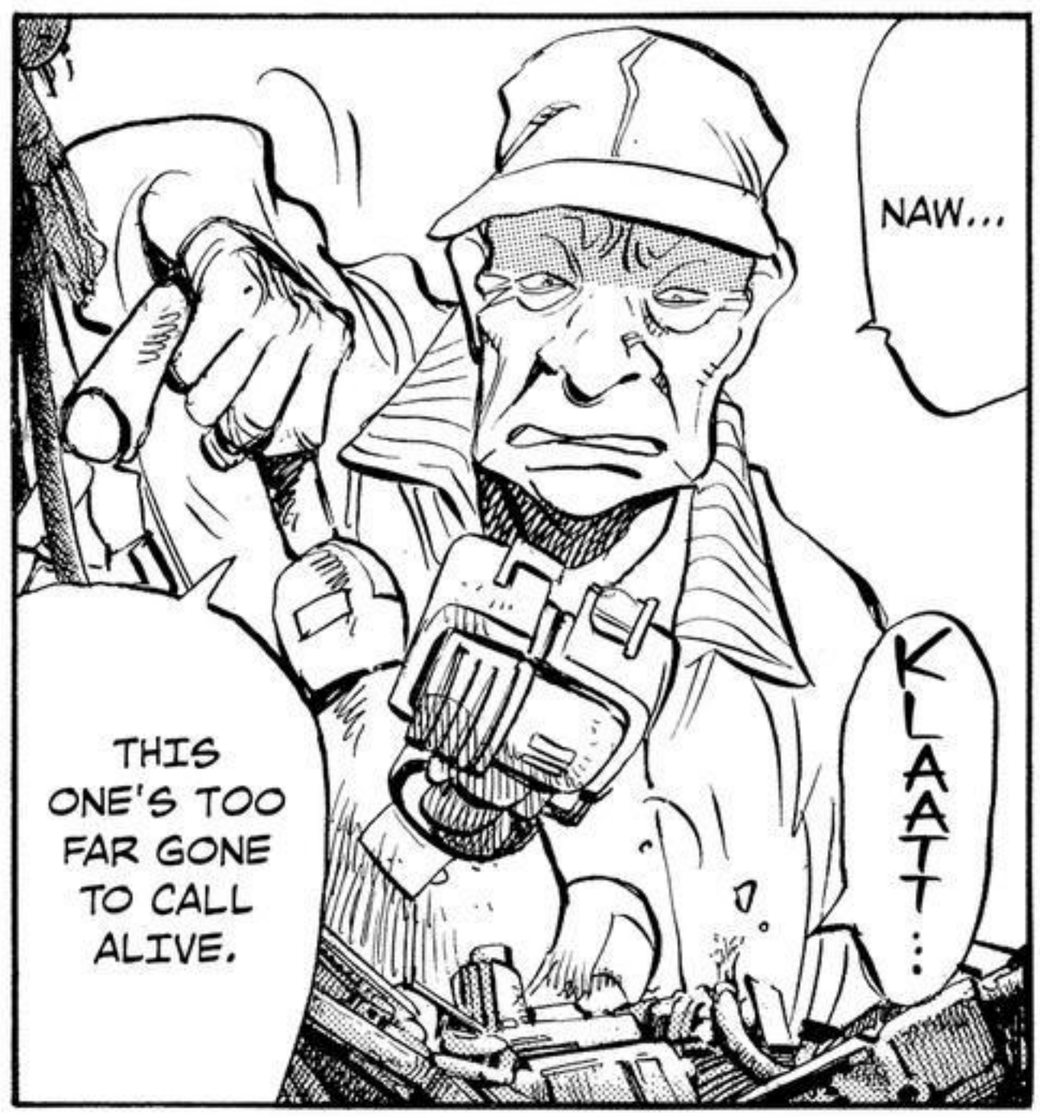

KLINKKKK
I GET A LITTLE MONEY OUT OF ANYTHIN' I SELL TO THE ROBOT HOSPITAL, SEE?

KLAWKLAWKLAWK
BRING IT DOWN A BIT...

HUH?
WAIT! STOP!

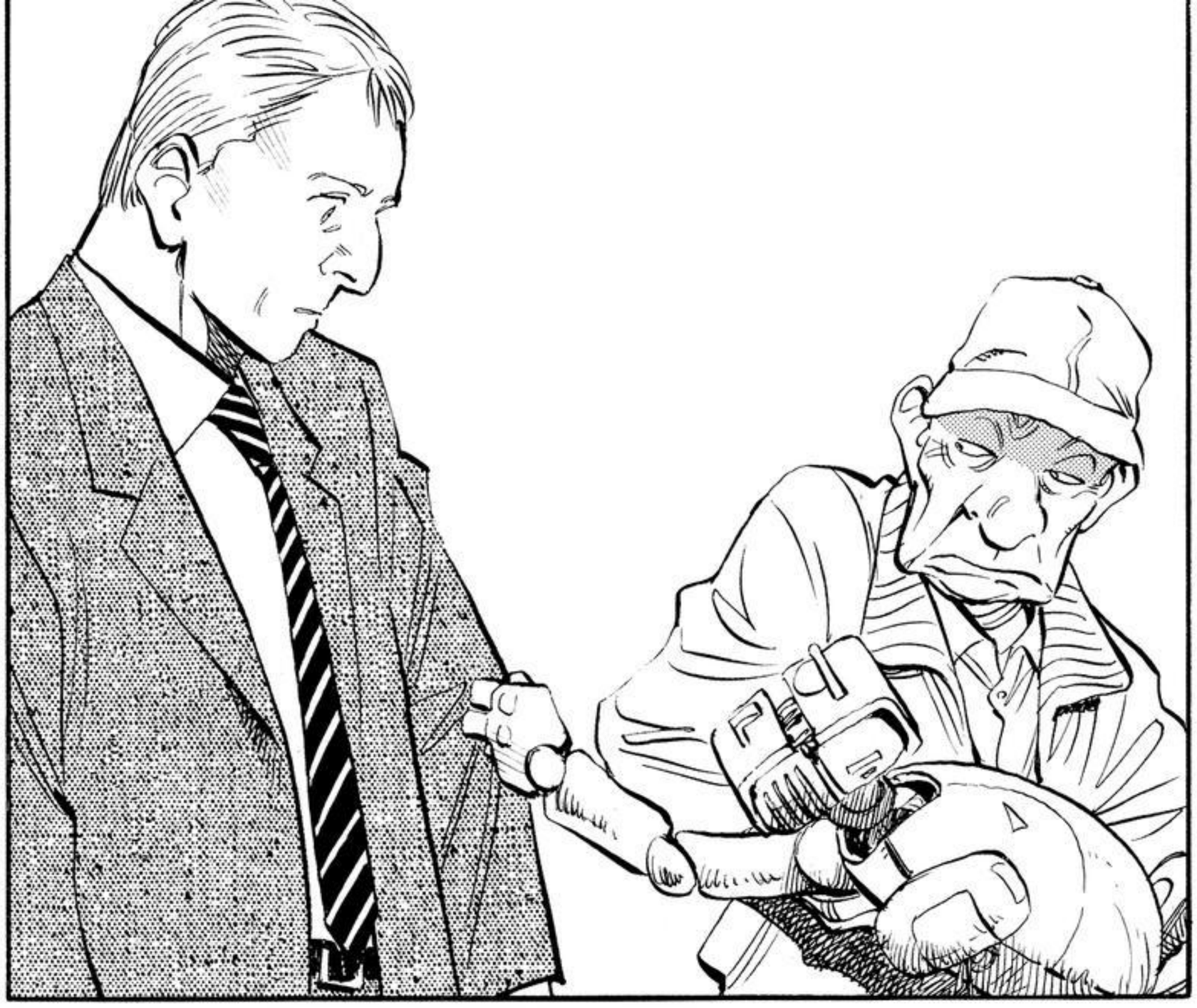
VRT
IT'S MOVING!

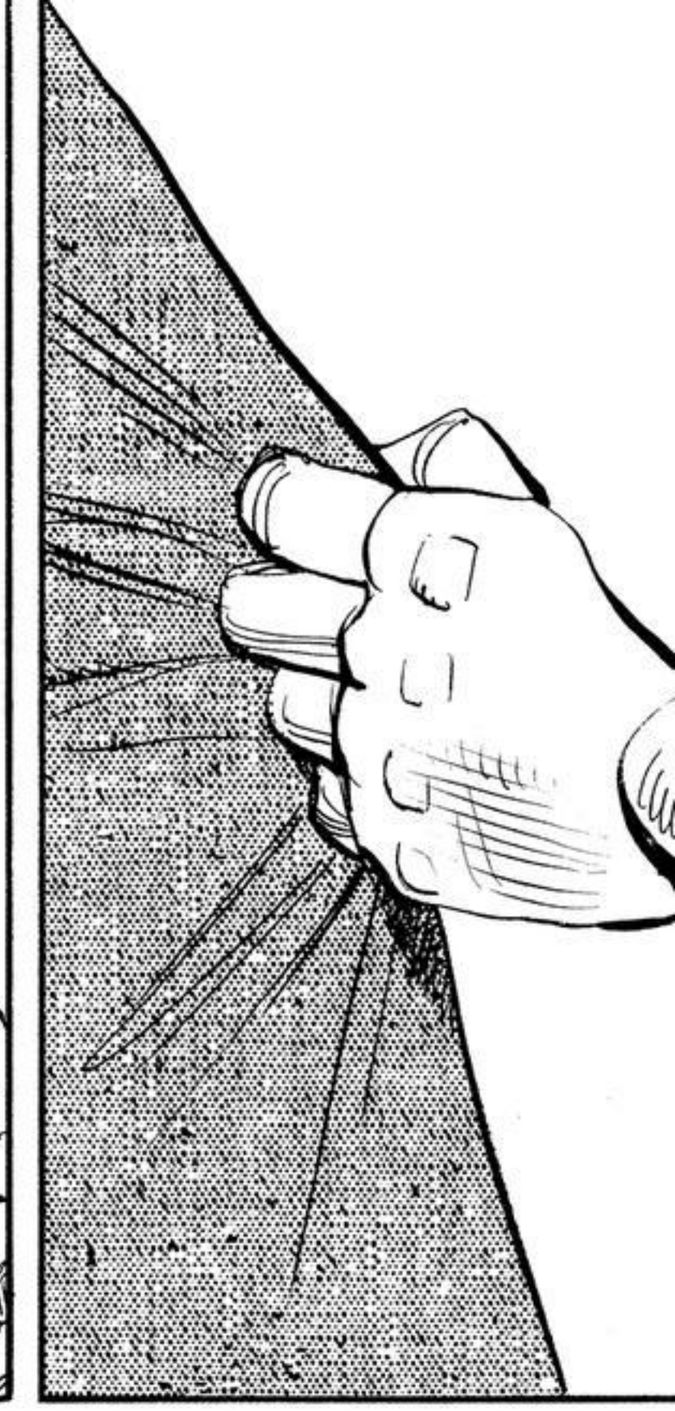

VRT...

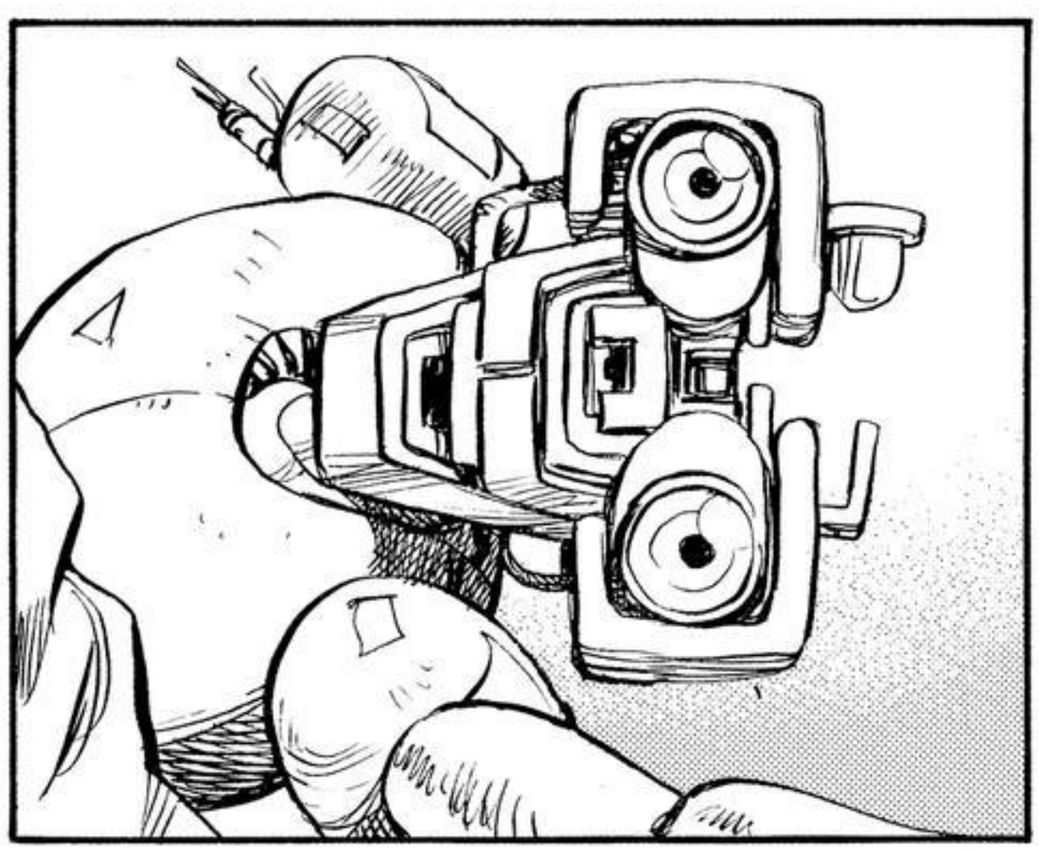

NAW...
KLAATT...
THIS ONE'S TOO FAR GONE TO CALL ALIVE.

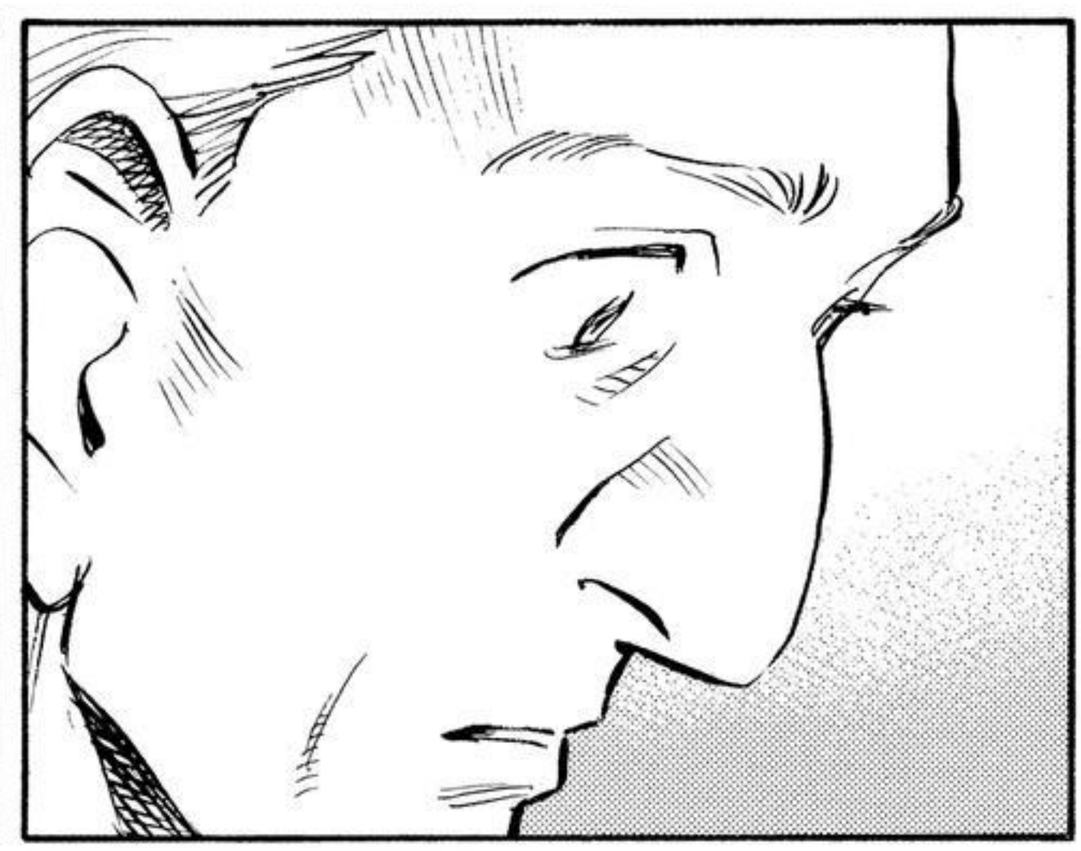
HM?
THIS ROBOT'S STILL ALIVE! WE'VE GOT TO GET IT TO THE ROBOT HOSPITAL!
VRT...

BETTER TO JUST THROW IT IN THE PRESS.
SUCH AN OLD MODEL... NOT EVEN GOOD FOR PARTS.







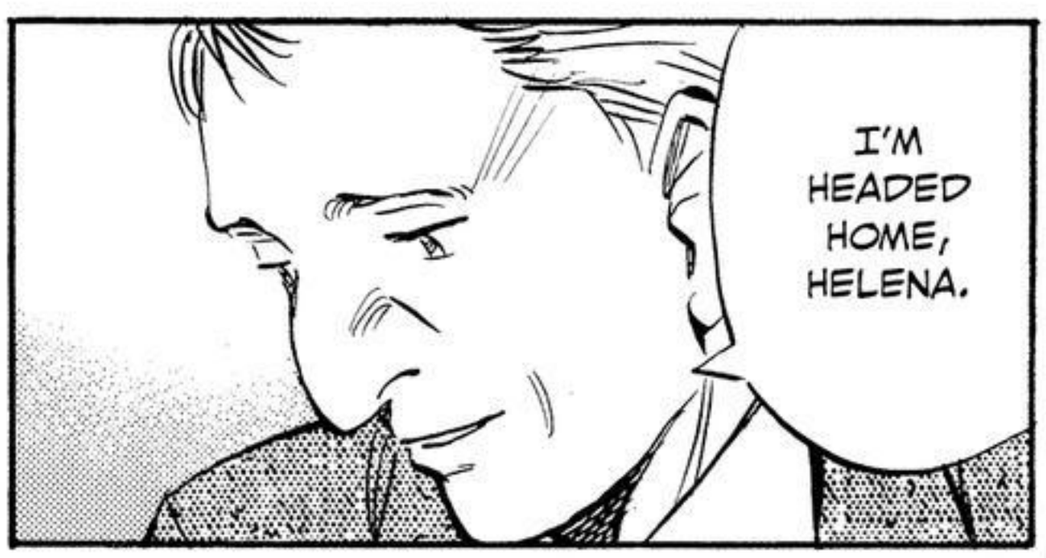


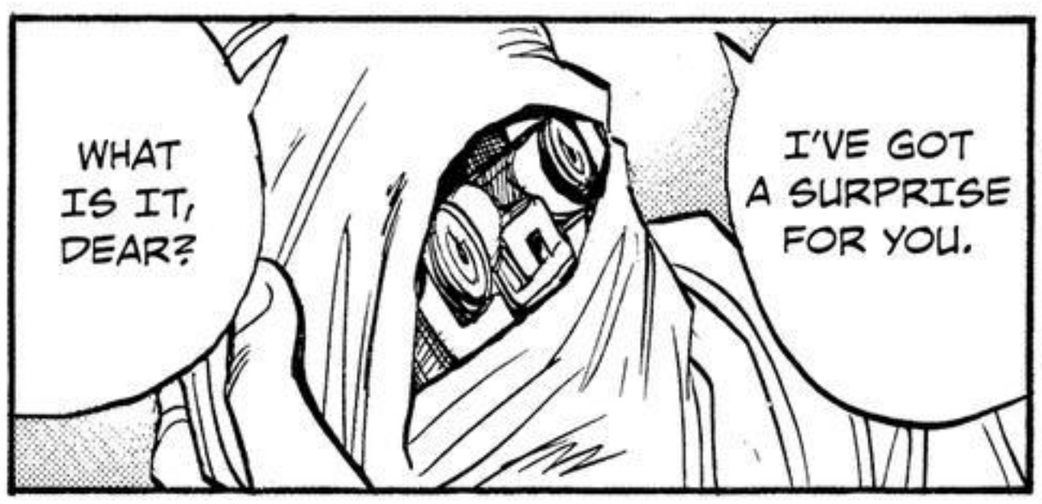
CAN I HAVE HIM?

IT'S JUST *JUNK*.
HEY, WHAT DO I CARE.

CHILD...?
THIS CHILD...

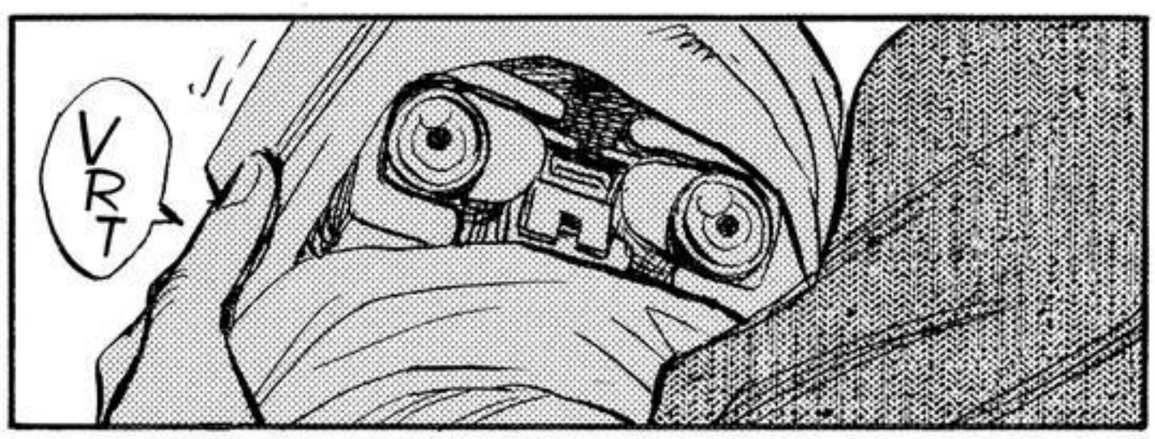
500 ZEUS A BODY'LL DO.


I'M HEADED HOME, HELENA.

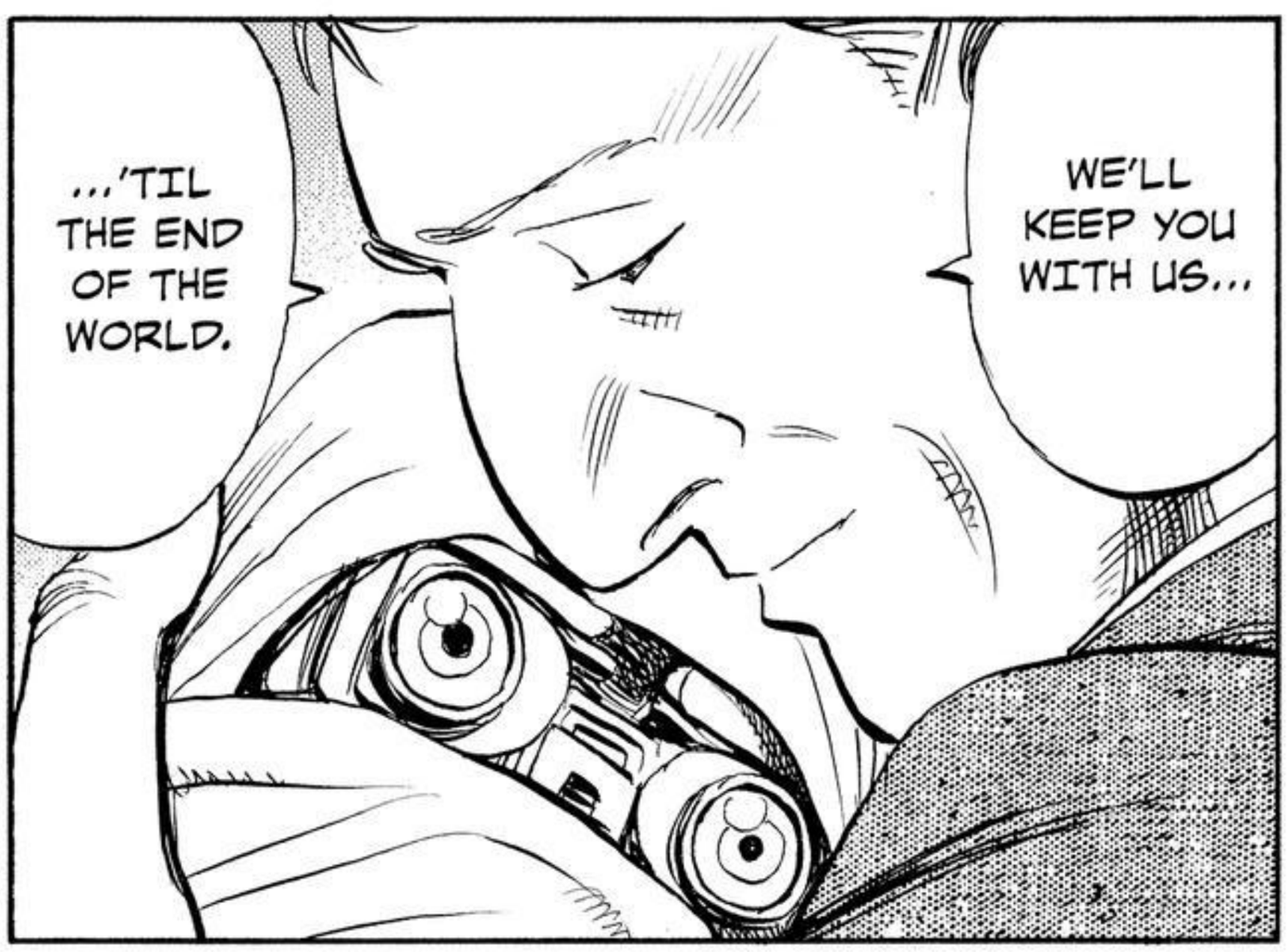

WHAT IS IT, DEAR?
I'VE GOT A SURPRISE FOR YOU.

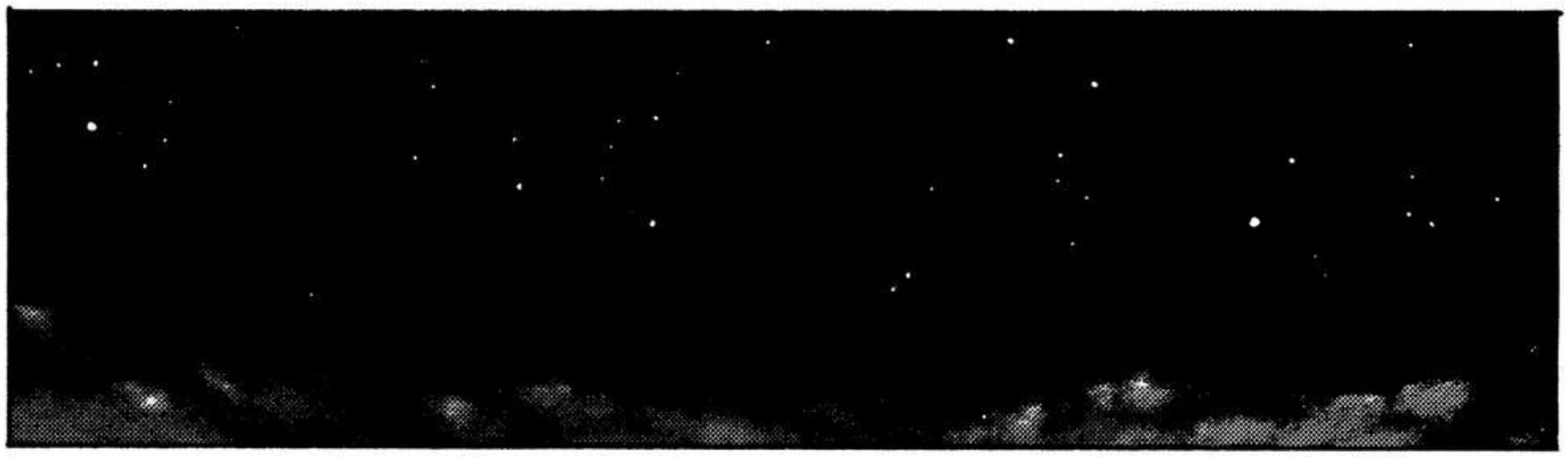
HELENA ...

YES...
I'M HEADING HOME NOW.


VRT

YOU JUST WAIT AND SEE.
YOU'RE GOING TO LOVE IT.


...'TIL THE END OF THE WORLD.
WE'LL KEEP YOU WITH US...

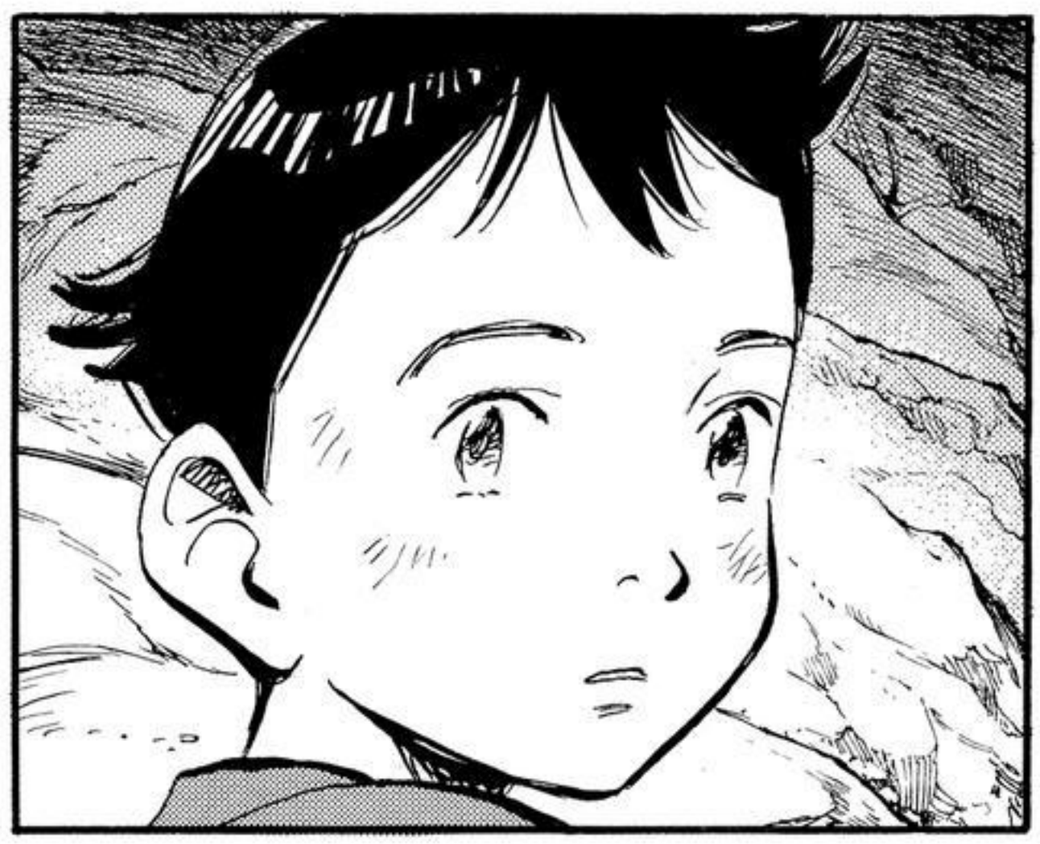


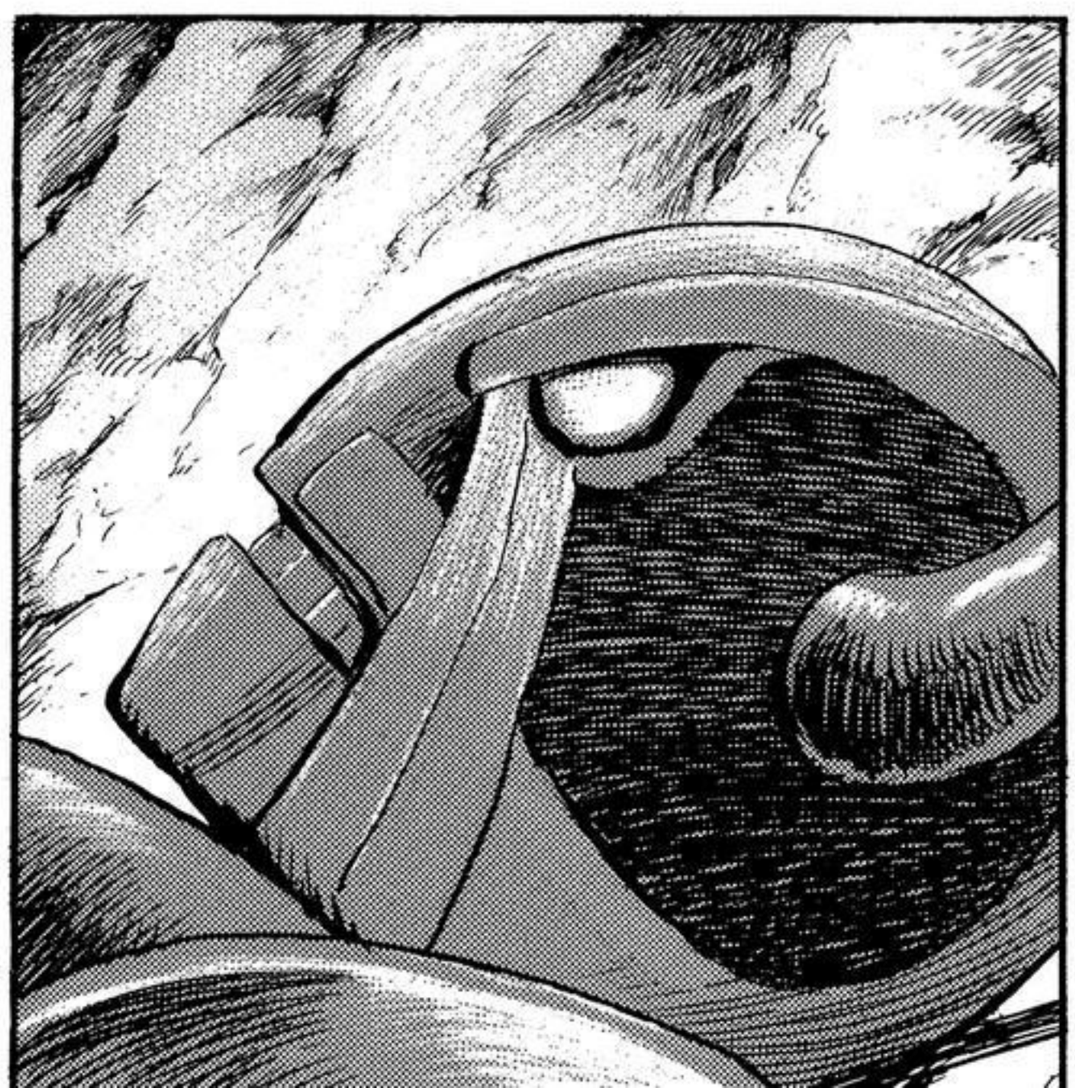
ON THE DAY
THE WORLD WAS
SUPPOSED TO END,
THEY SAY MY
BROTHER ATOM
WAS GAZING UP
AT THE NIGHT SKY.

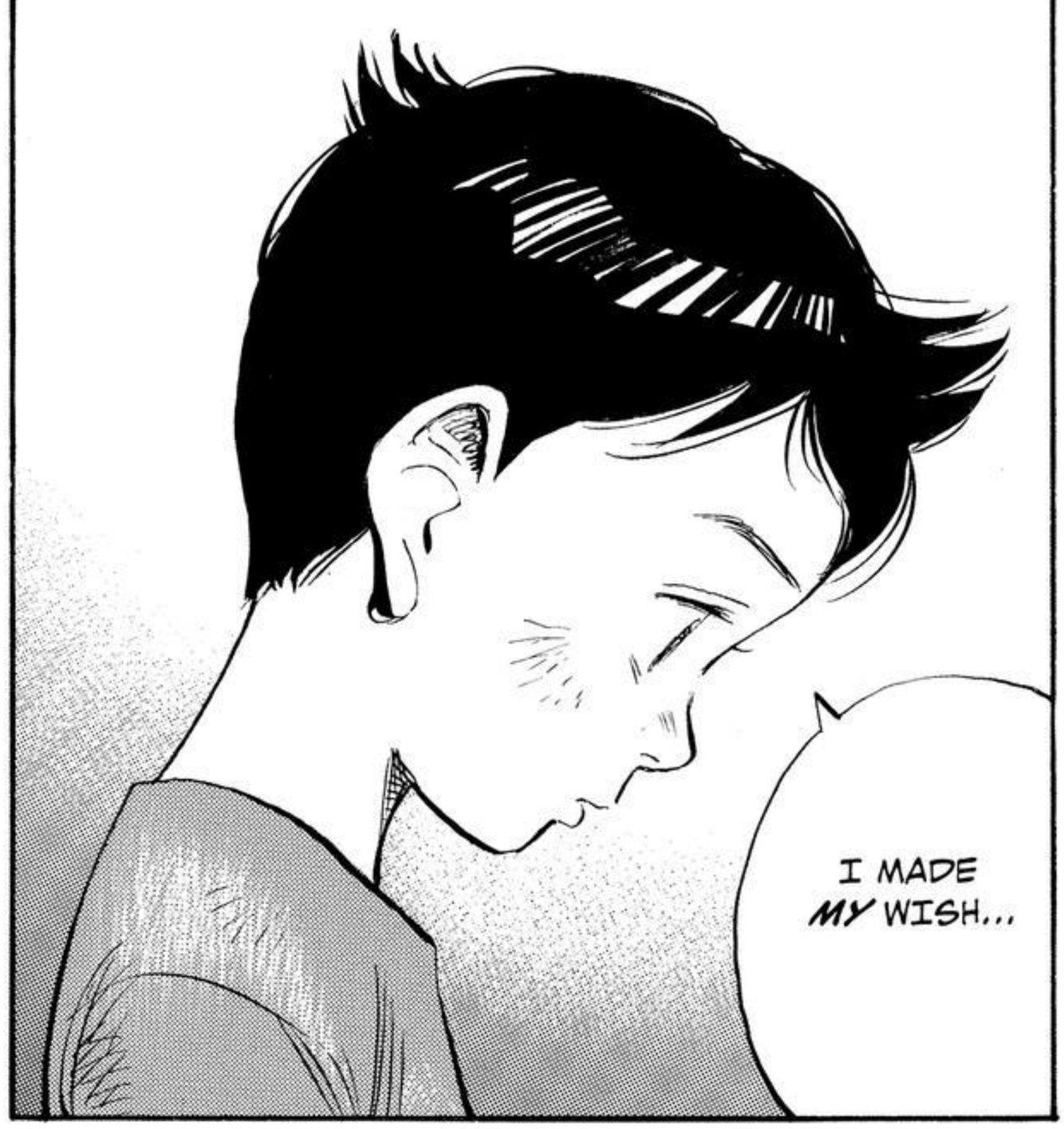
HEY, A SHOOTING STAR...

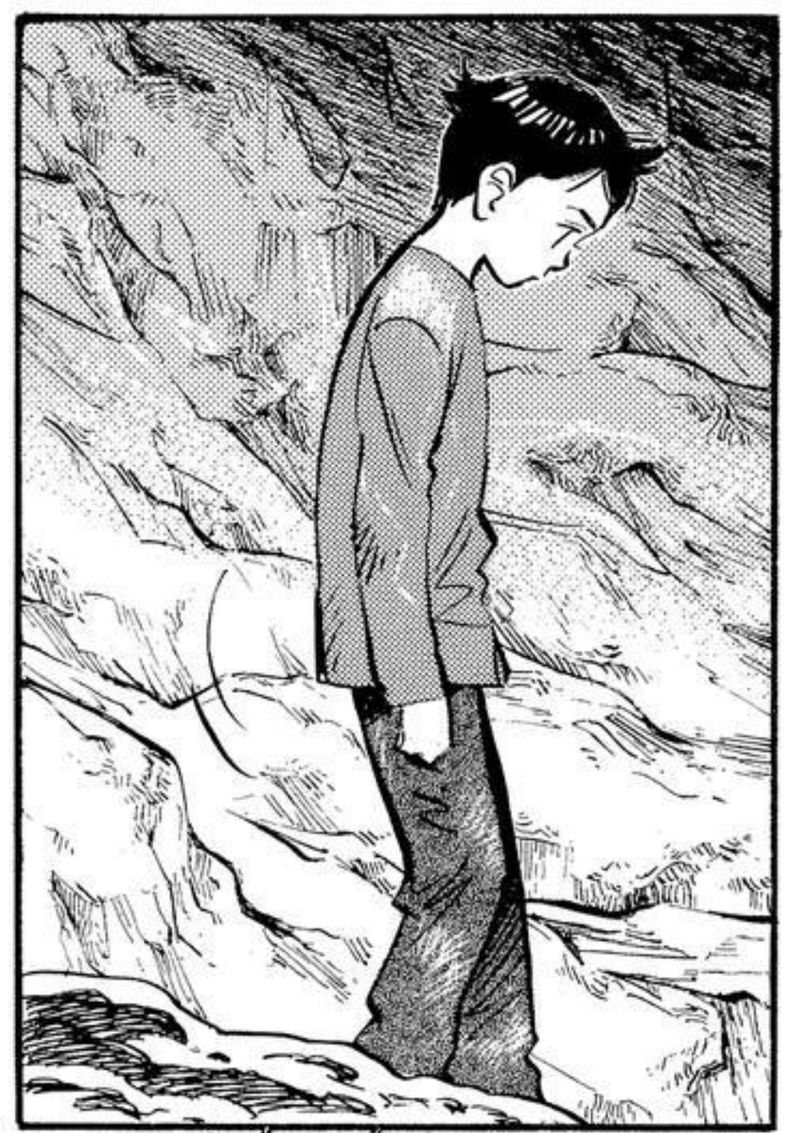
KNOW WHAT? IF YOU MAKE A WISH ON A SHOOTING STAR...
THEY SAY IT'LL COME TRUE.

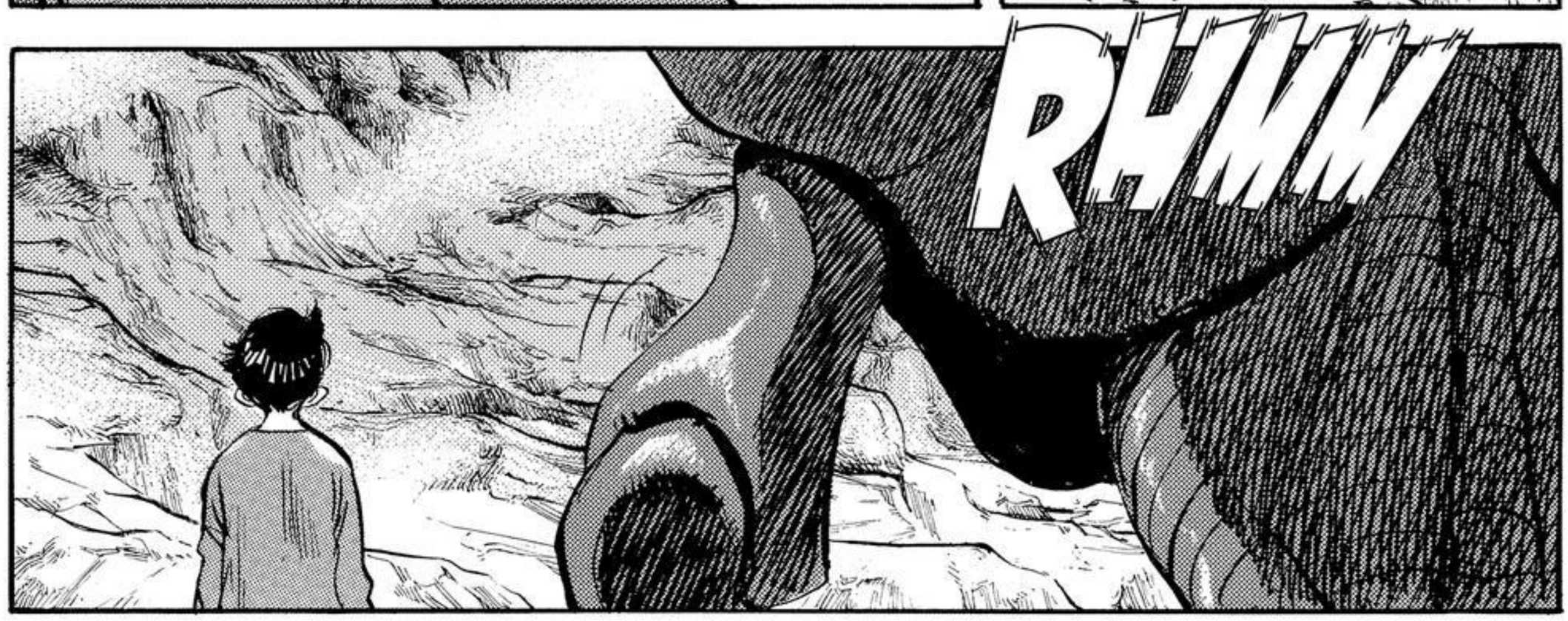
DID YOU MAKE A WISH?



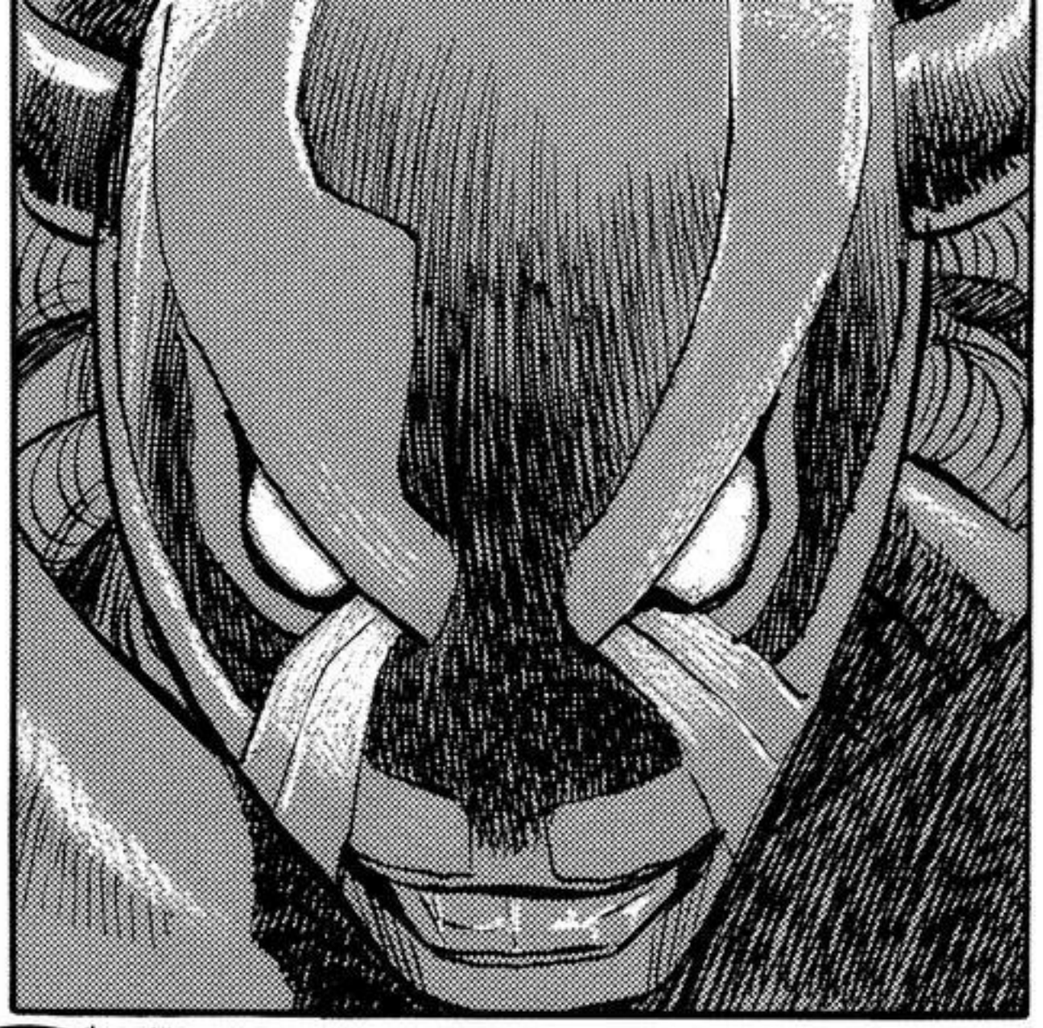



I MADE MY WISH...




RHHH

WHAT DID YOU WISH FOR?



RUMBLE RUMBLE

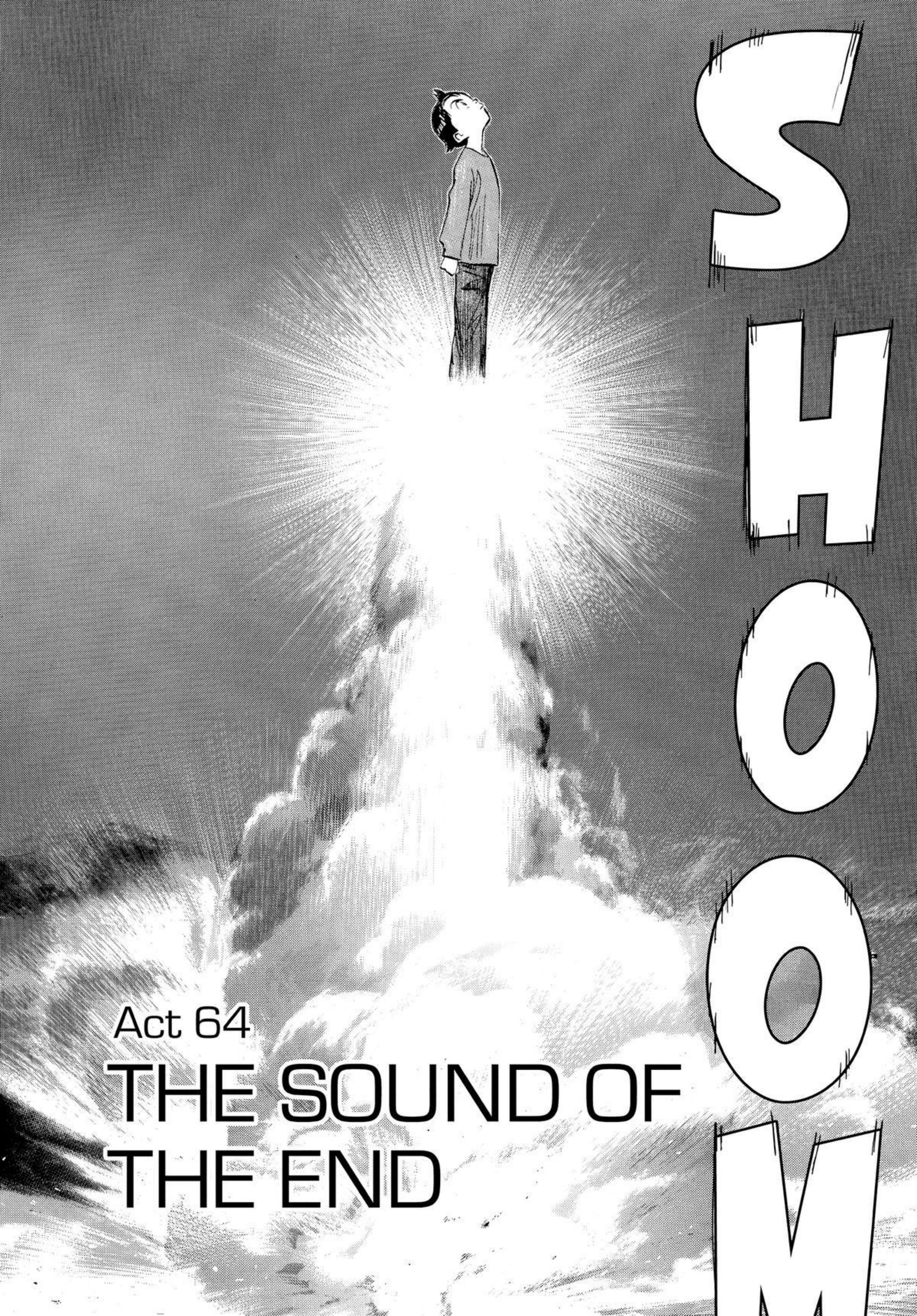
IT'S ALMOST TIME.

SAHAD...

I HAVE TO GO.

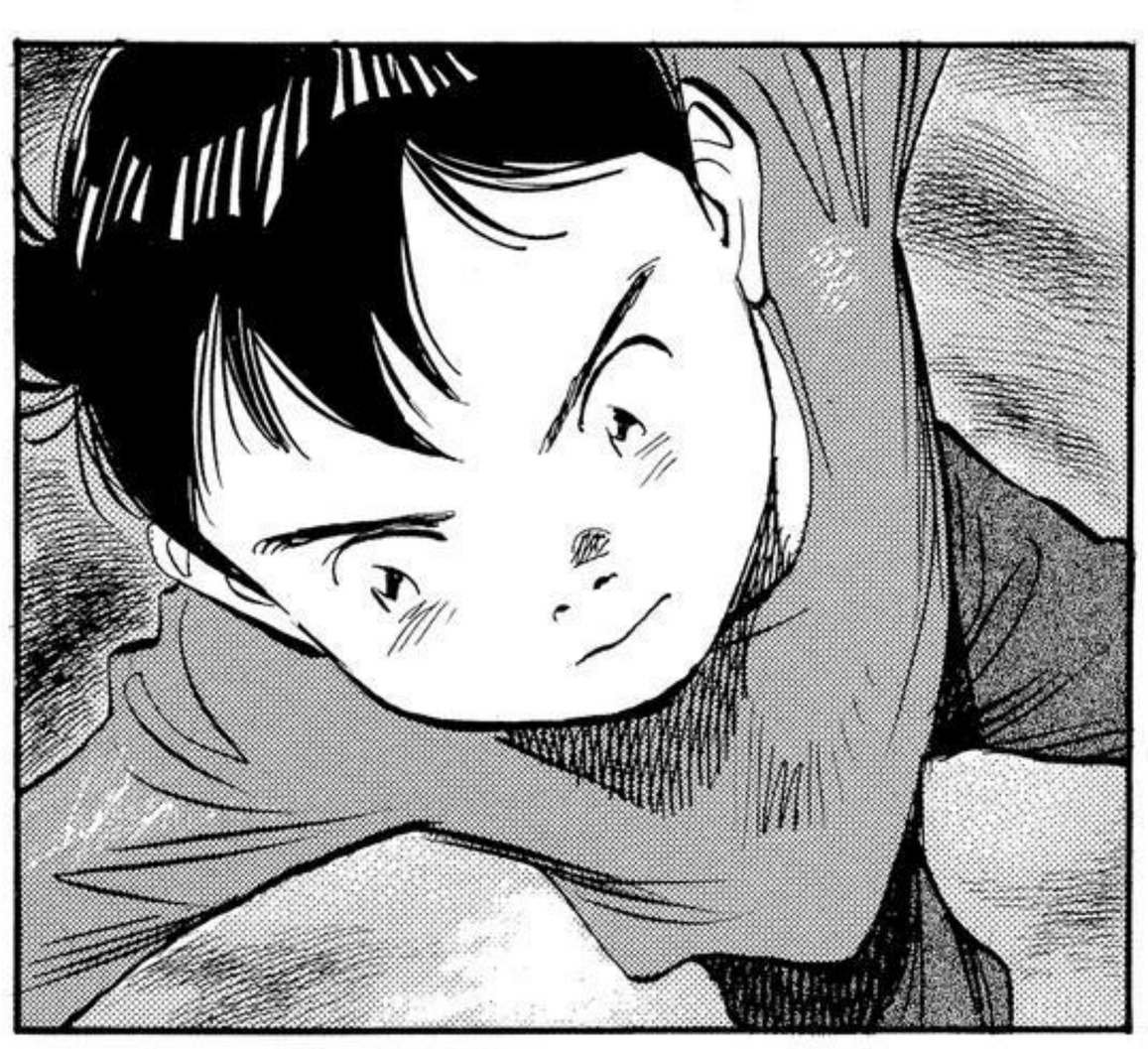
Act 64 THE SOUND OF THE END

ATOM...



Act 64

THE SOUND OF THE END



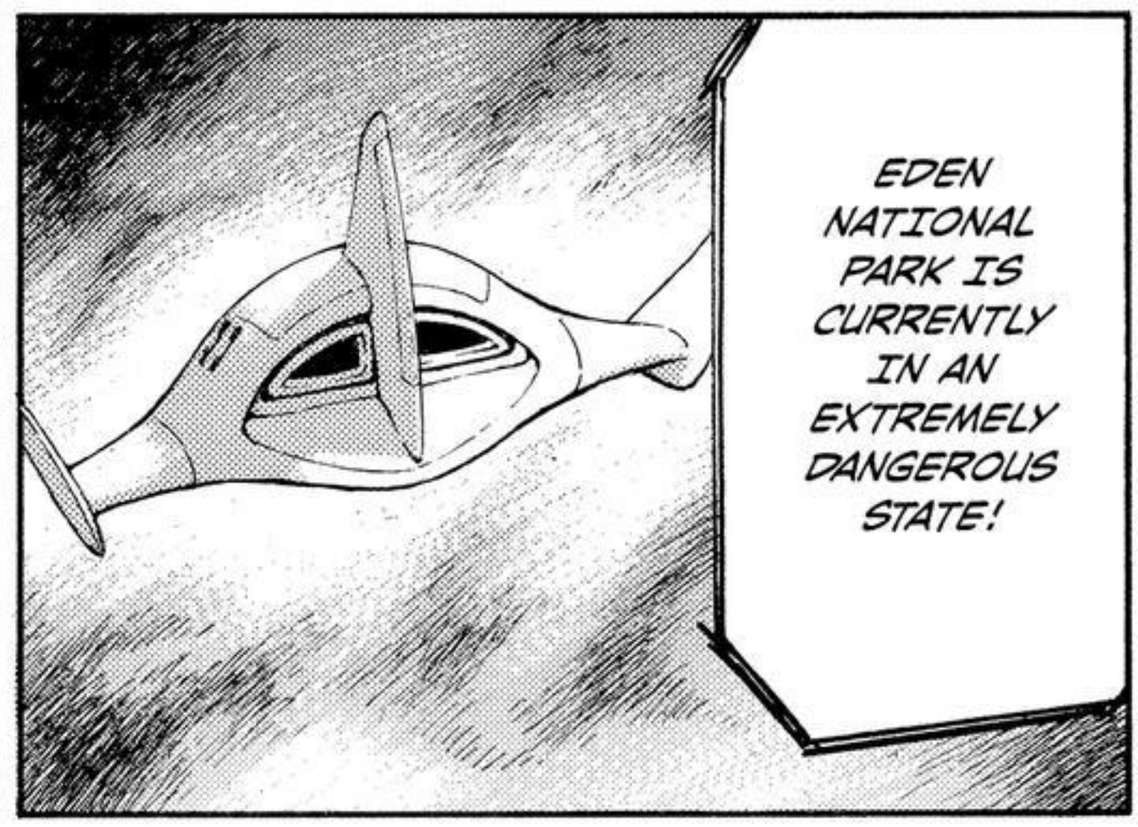
SHOOT

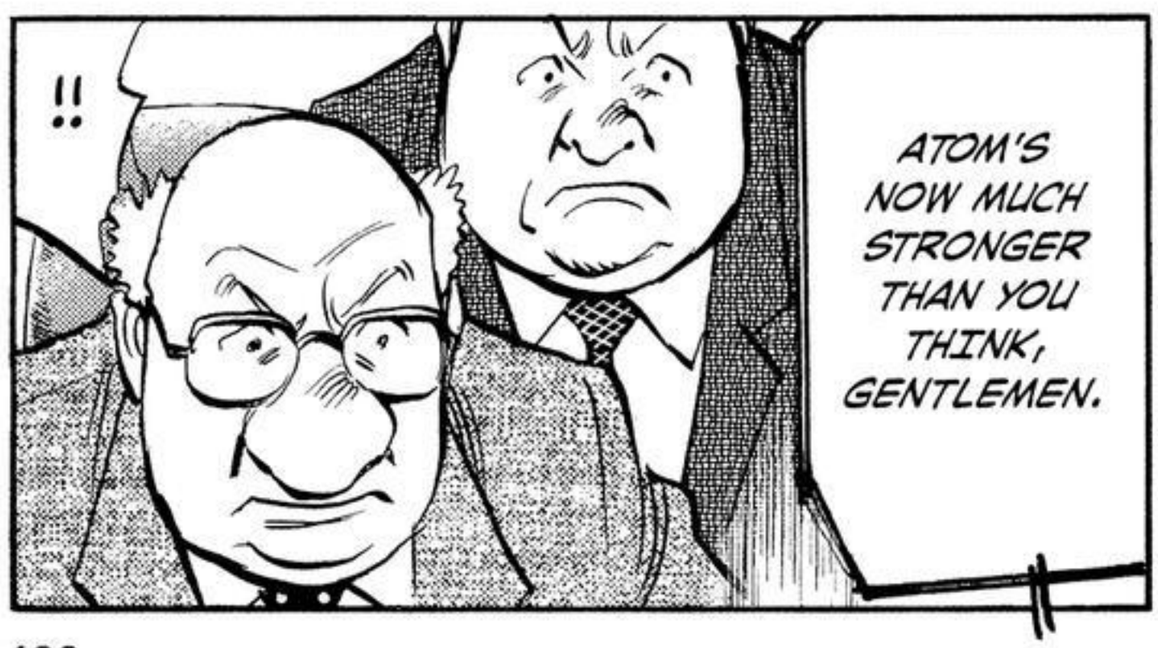
PUSH

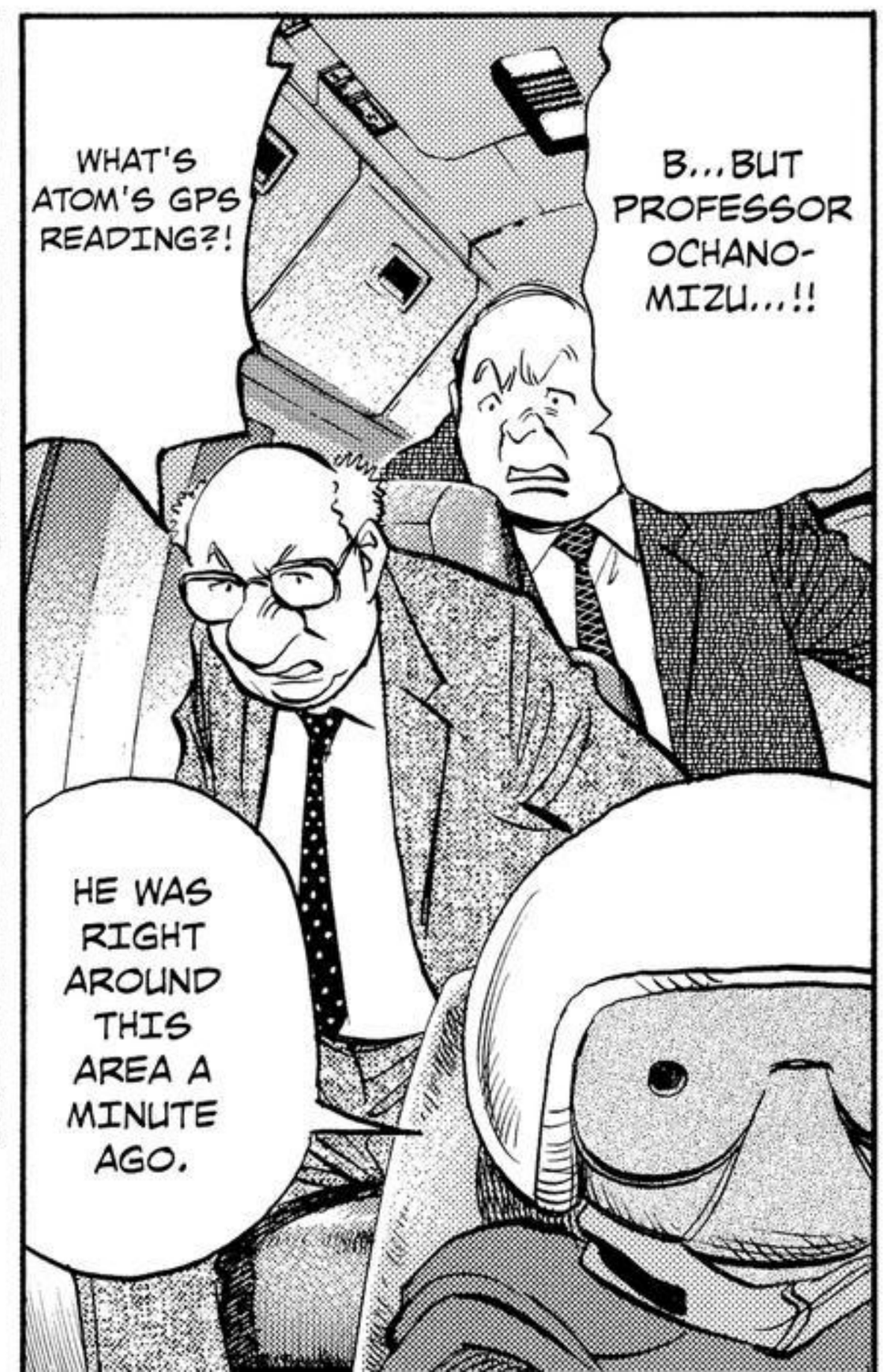
BOOM

THE TEMPERATURE OF THE EARTH'S SURFACE IS RISING RAPIDLY!!

I DETECT AN UNUSUAL UPWELLING OF THE SURFACE AROUND THE CALDERA!







PROFES-
SOR
TENMA!!

BECAUSE I INTRODUCED AN EMOTIONAL BIAS INTO HIM.

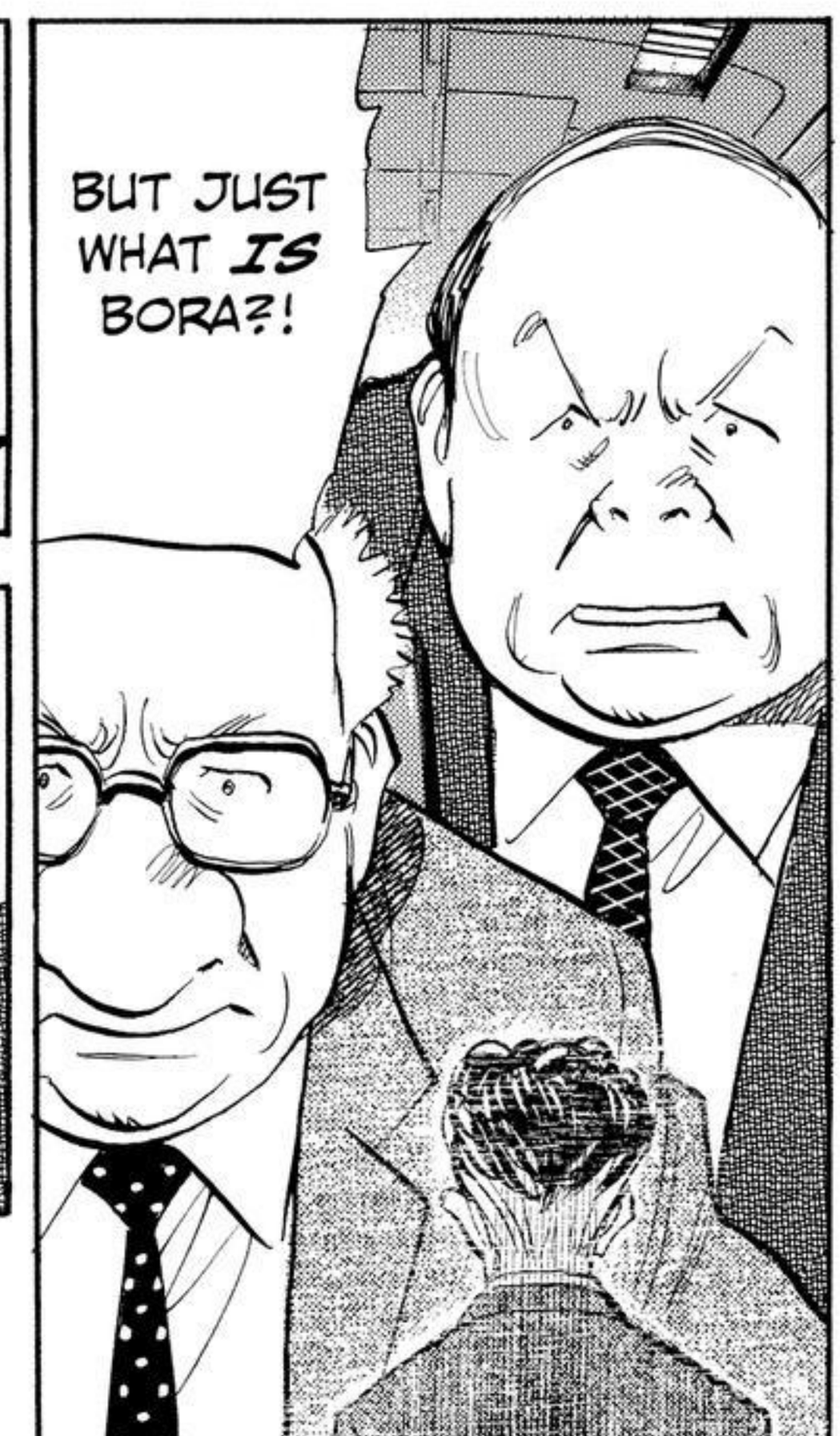
...HAS KILLED PLUTO.
I SUSPECT THAT ATOM...

HE'S BECOMING MORE ACTIVE, DEEP IN THE EARTH, PREPARING TO DESTROY IT!
IT'S BORA THAT WE NEED TO WORRY ABOUT NOW.

...

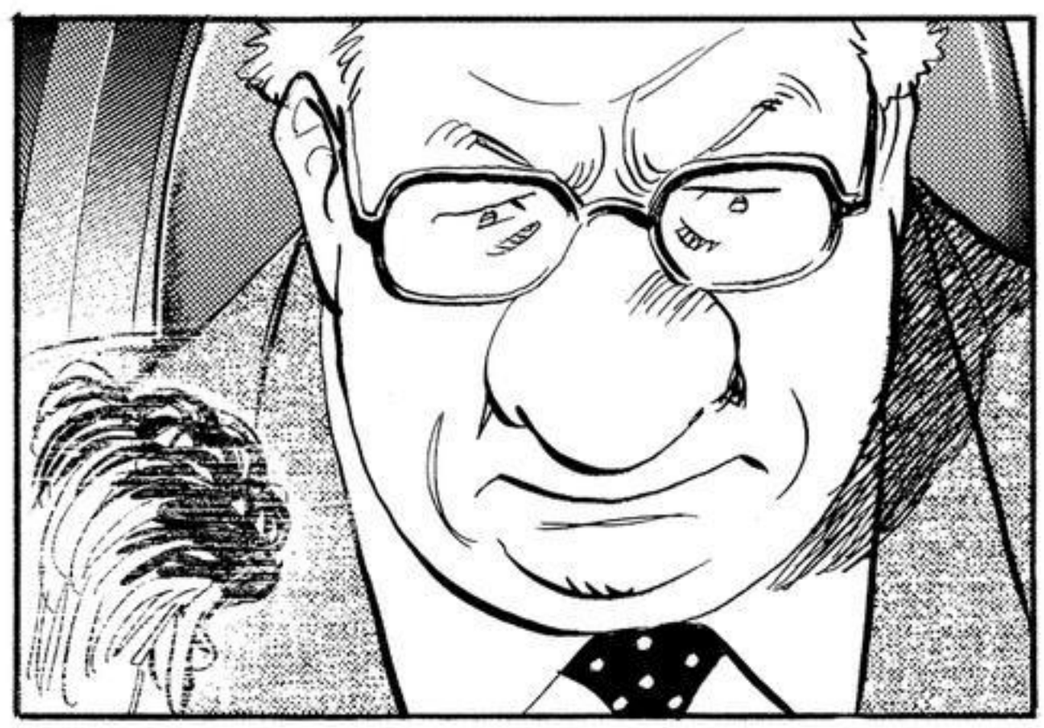
BORA'S AI IS REALLY GOJI...
HASN'T ATOM ALREADY TOLD YOU?

YES, BUT GOJI...
GOJI?


BUT JUST WHAT IS BORA?!

GOJI WAS CONVINCED THAT HE WAS ACTUALLY ABULLAH!

AS ABULLAH HE'S CONVINCED THAT HE IS HUMAN!



DESPITE THE FACT THAT HE'S A ROBOT THAT I CREATED...

NO. GOJI MADE BORA.

IS BORA SOMETHING THAT YOU MADE, PROFESSOR TENMA?!
SO JUST WHAT EXACTLY IS BORA?!

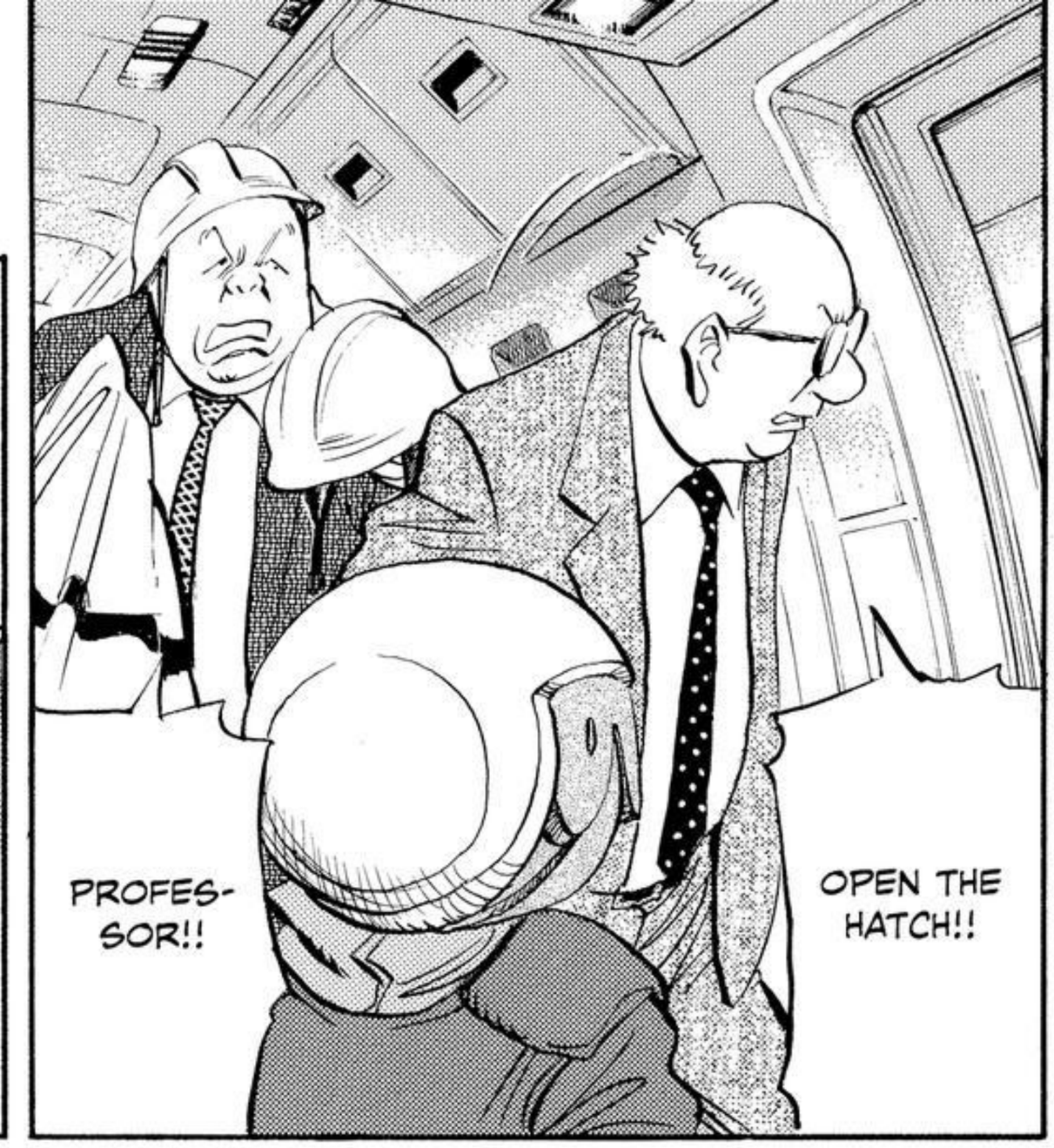
IN FACT, YOU MIGHT EVEN CALL BORA A PLANET-ALTERING ROBOT.

BORA HAS EVEN MORE POWER THAN PLUTO...
AND PLUTO IS AN ENVIRONMENT-ALTERING ROBOT THAT ABULLAH CREATED.

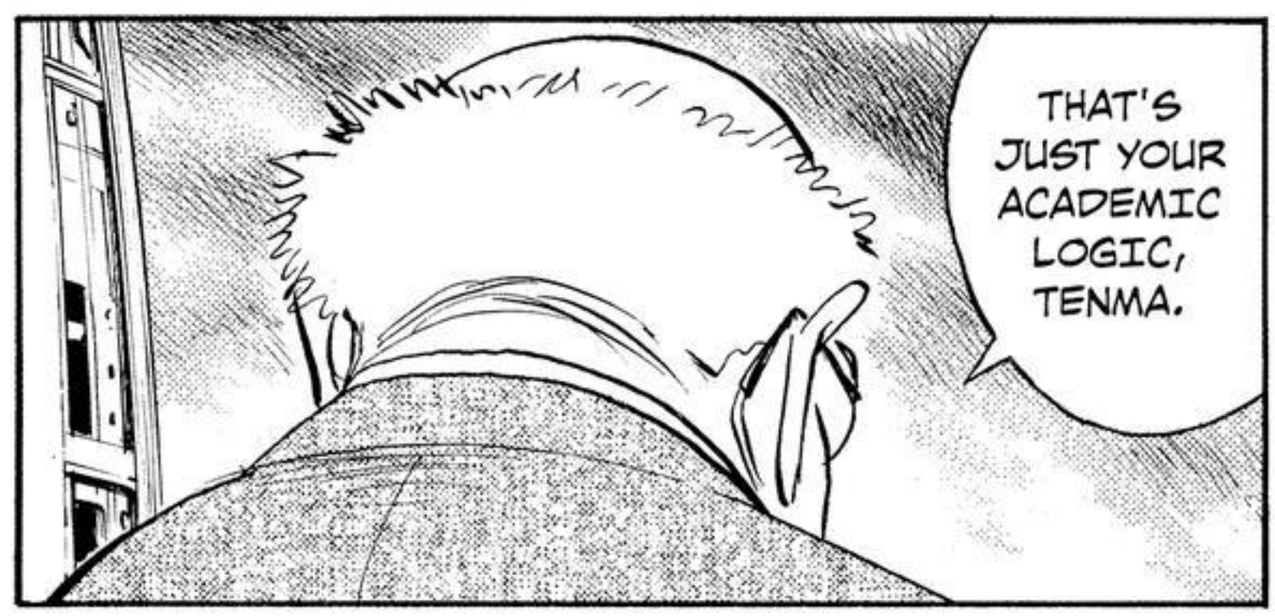
AND HE'S EQUIPPED WITH AN ANTIPROTON BOMB!

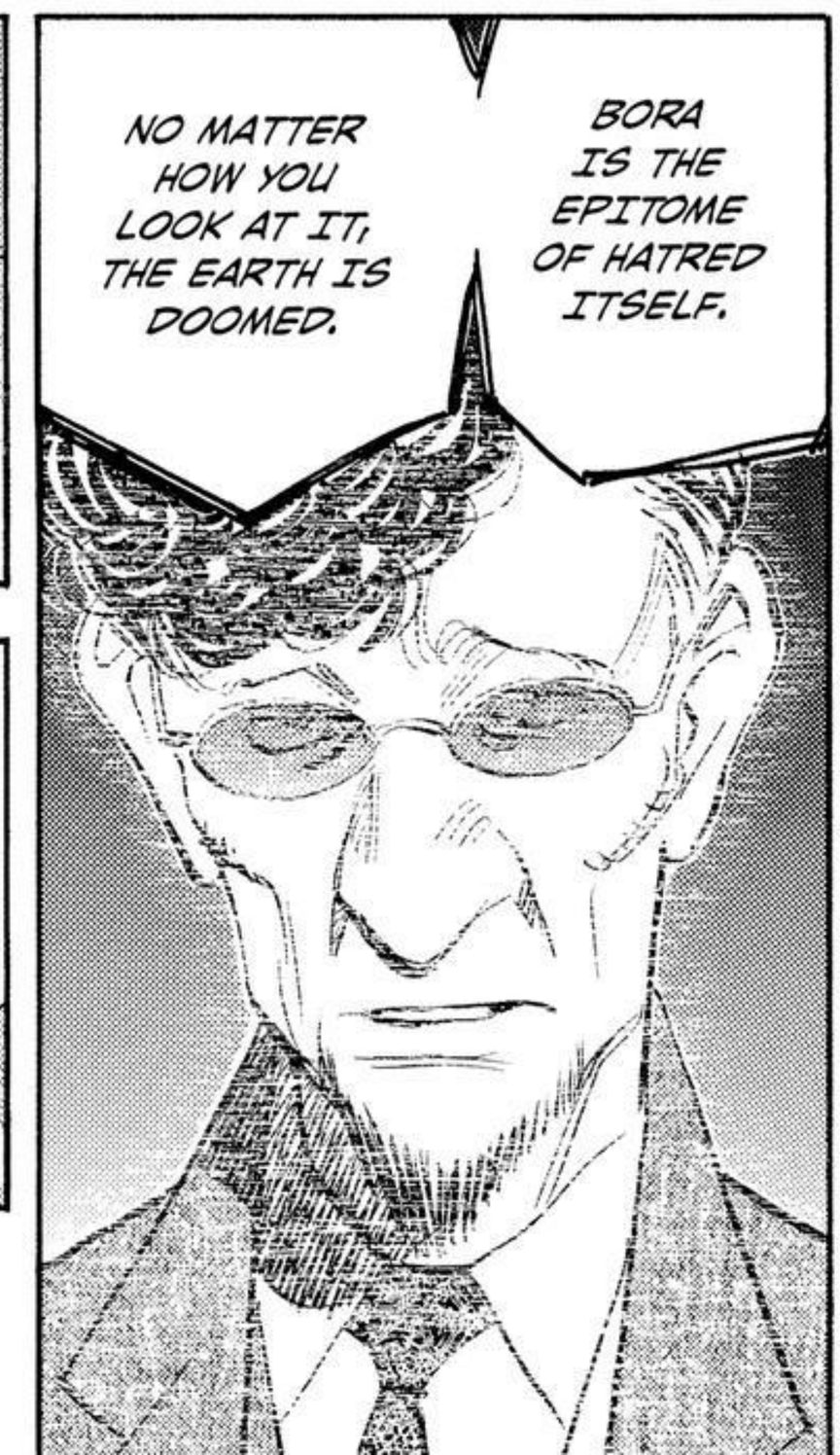
WE'VE LANDED.
SHMM—

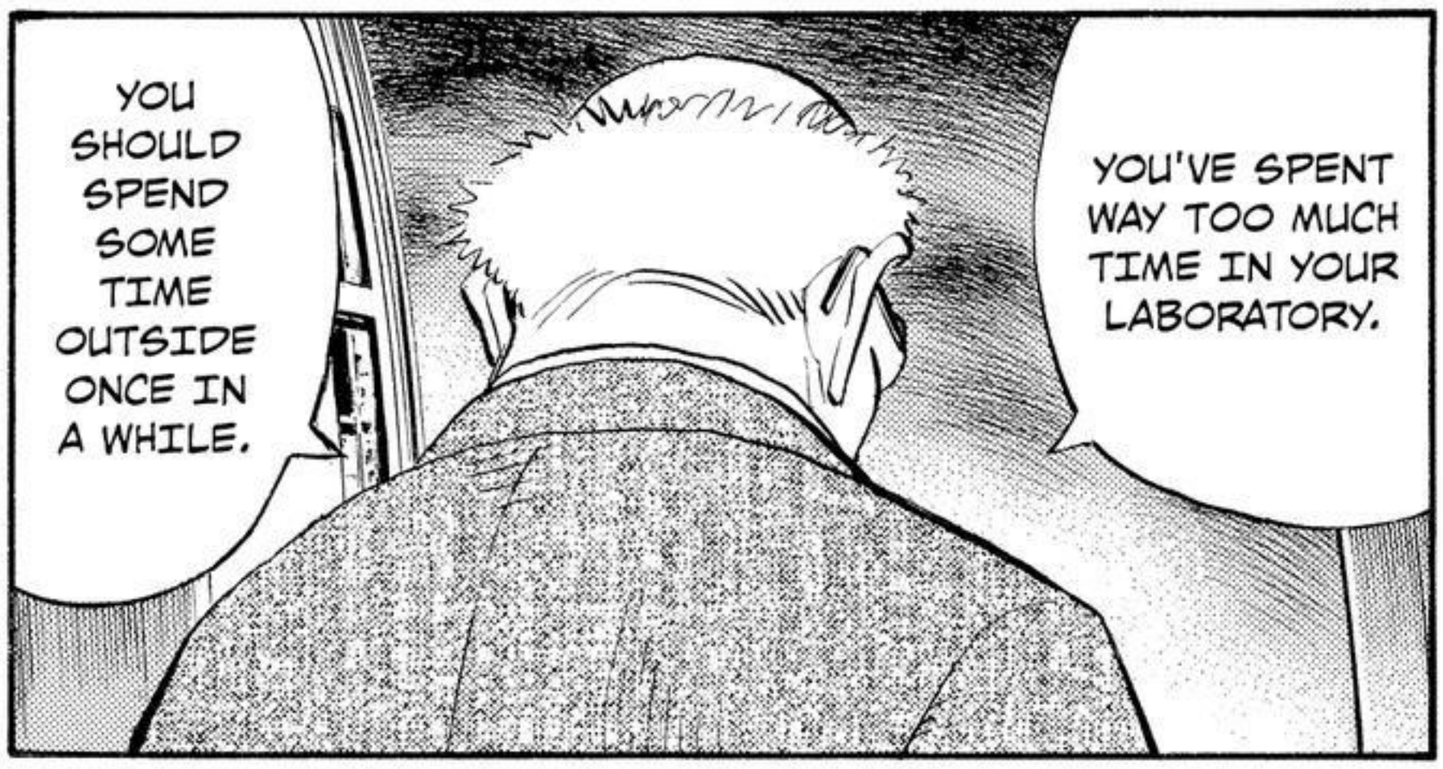
THE AIR OUTSIDE'S FILLED WITH HATRED.


PROFES-SOR!!
OPEN THE HATCH!!

TO THE POINT WHERE ONLY HATRED IS LEFT.
ABULLAH'S HATRED EATS AWAY AT ALL OTHER EMOTIONS...

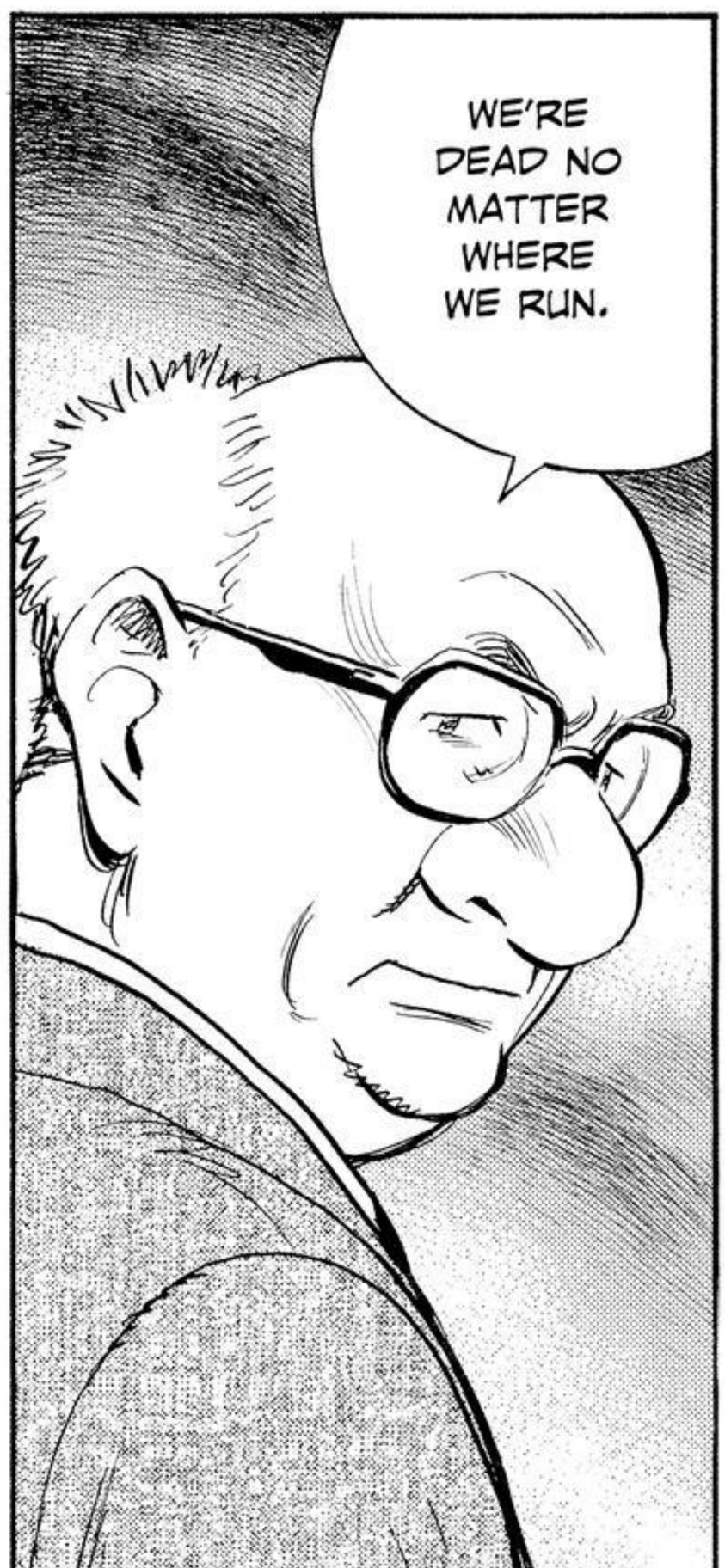

THAT'S JUST YOUR ACADEMIC LOGIC, TENMA.


NO MATTER HOW YOU LOOK AT IT, THE EARTH IS DOOMED.
BORA IS THE EPITOME OF HATRED ITSELF.

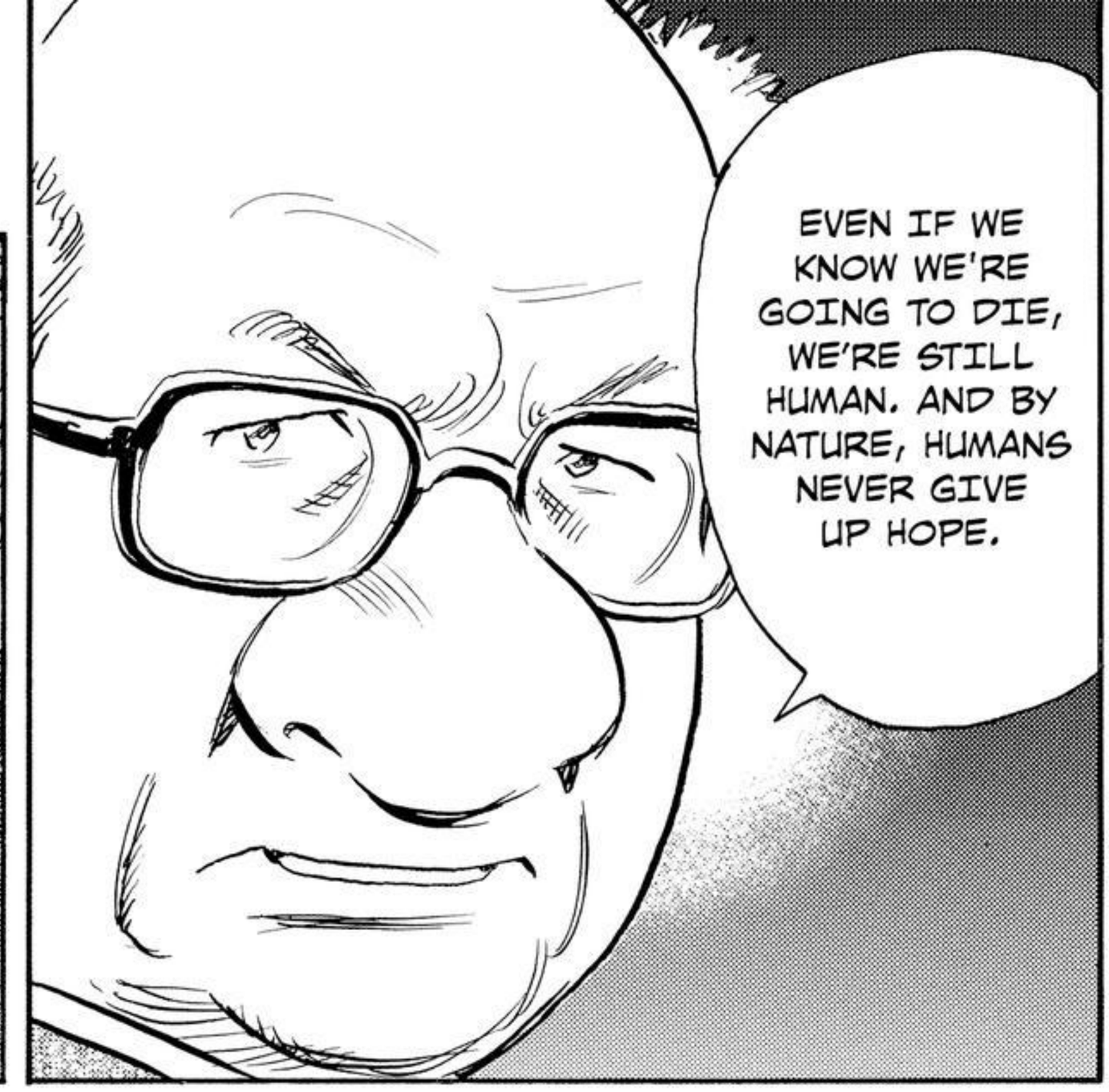

YOU SHOULD SPEND SOME TIME OUTSIDE ONCE IN A WHILE.
YOU'VE SPENT WAY TOO MUCH TIME IN YOUR LABORATORY.

IF YOUR REASONING IS CORRECT, THE WORLD WILL BE DESTROYED.

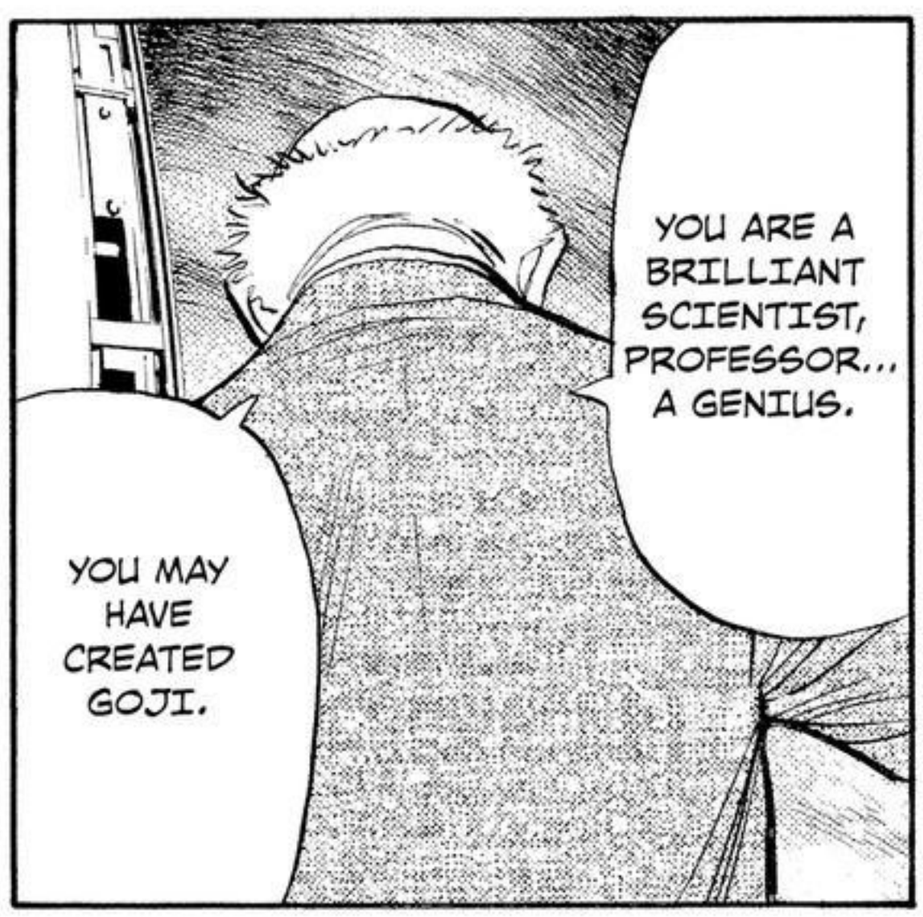
BUT...

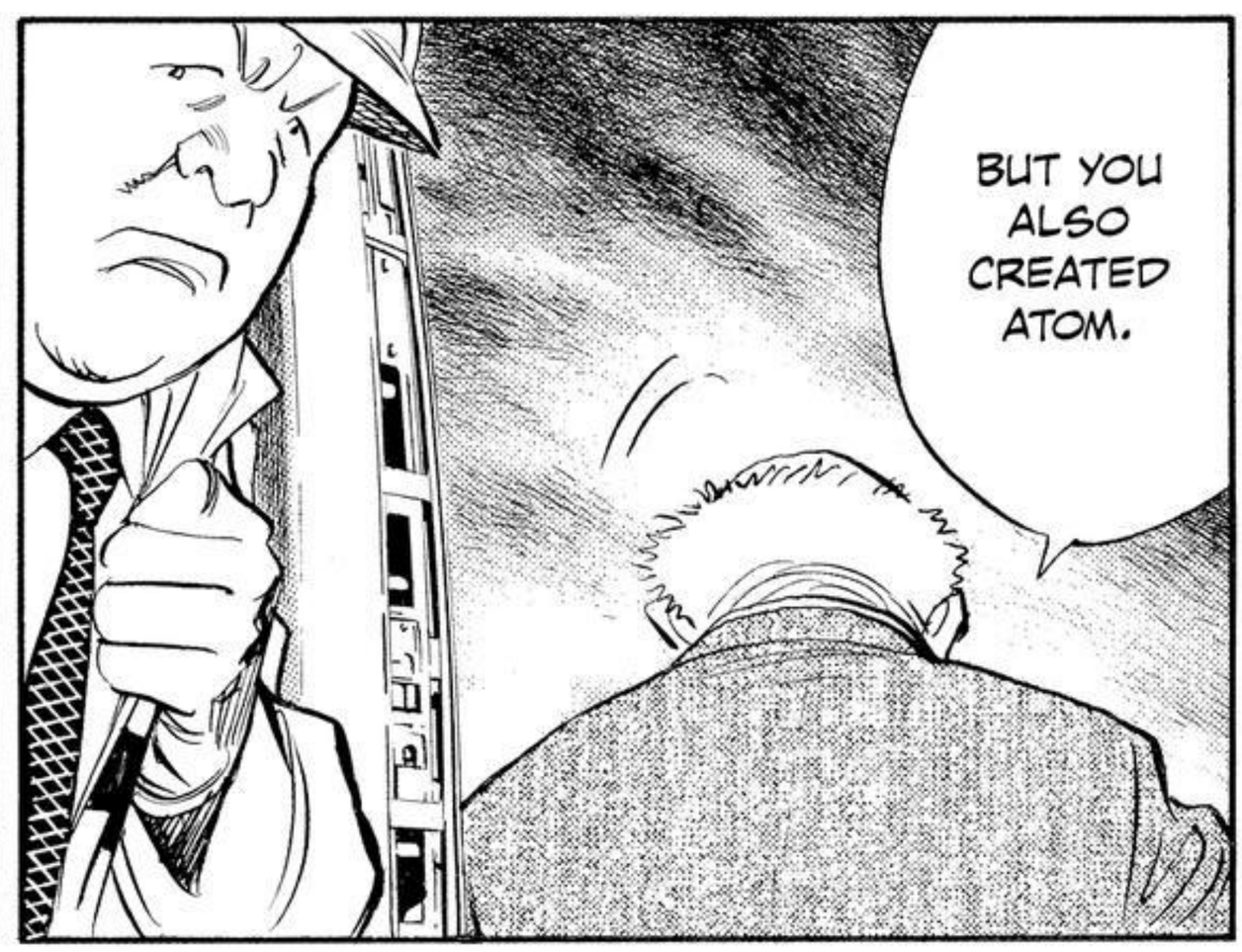

WE'RE DEAD NO MATTER WHERE WE RUN.

...EVEN IN THE FACE OF DEATH...

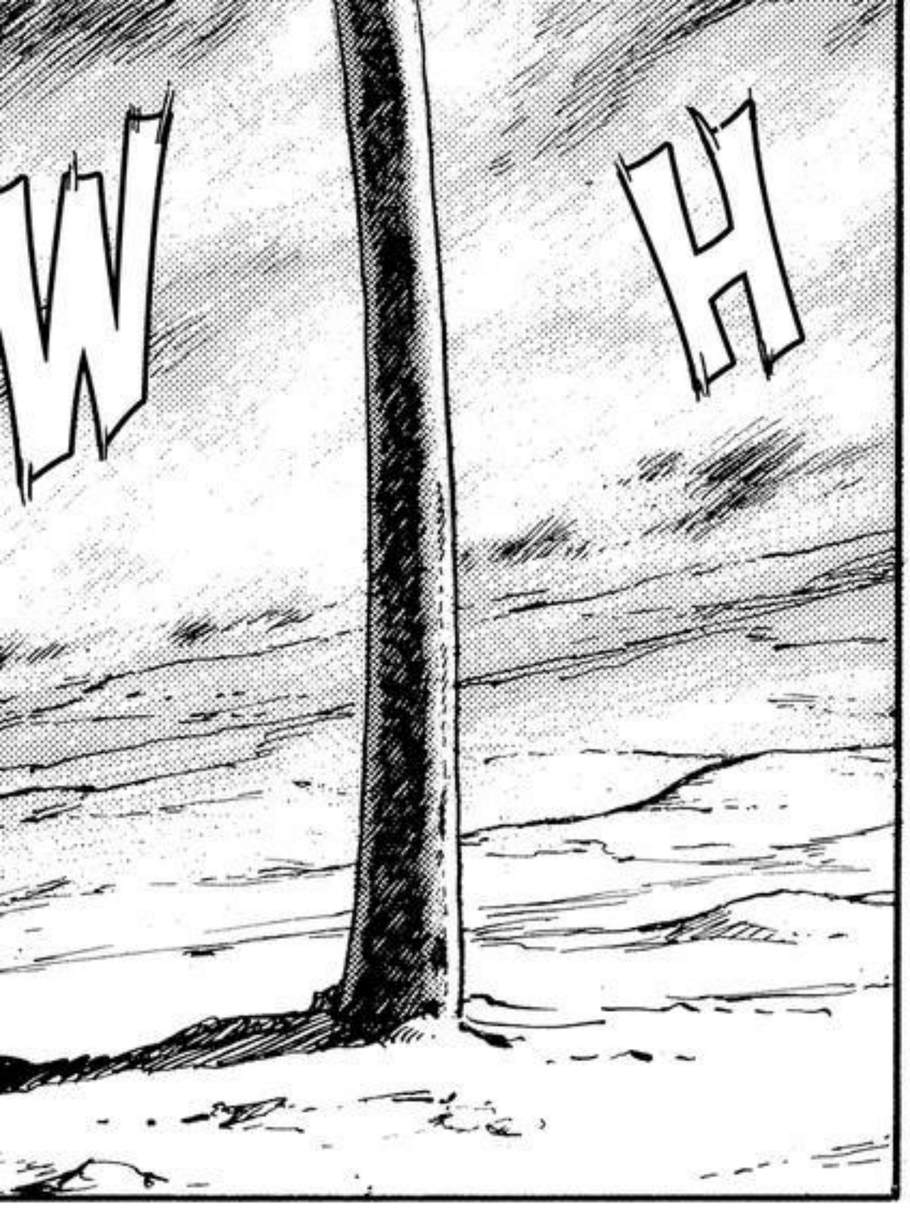

EVEN IF WE KNOW WE'RE GOING TO DIE, WE'RE STILL HUMAN. AND BY NATURE, HUMANS NEVER GIVE UP HOPE.

JUST LIKE ATOM.

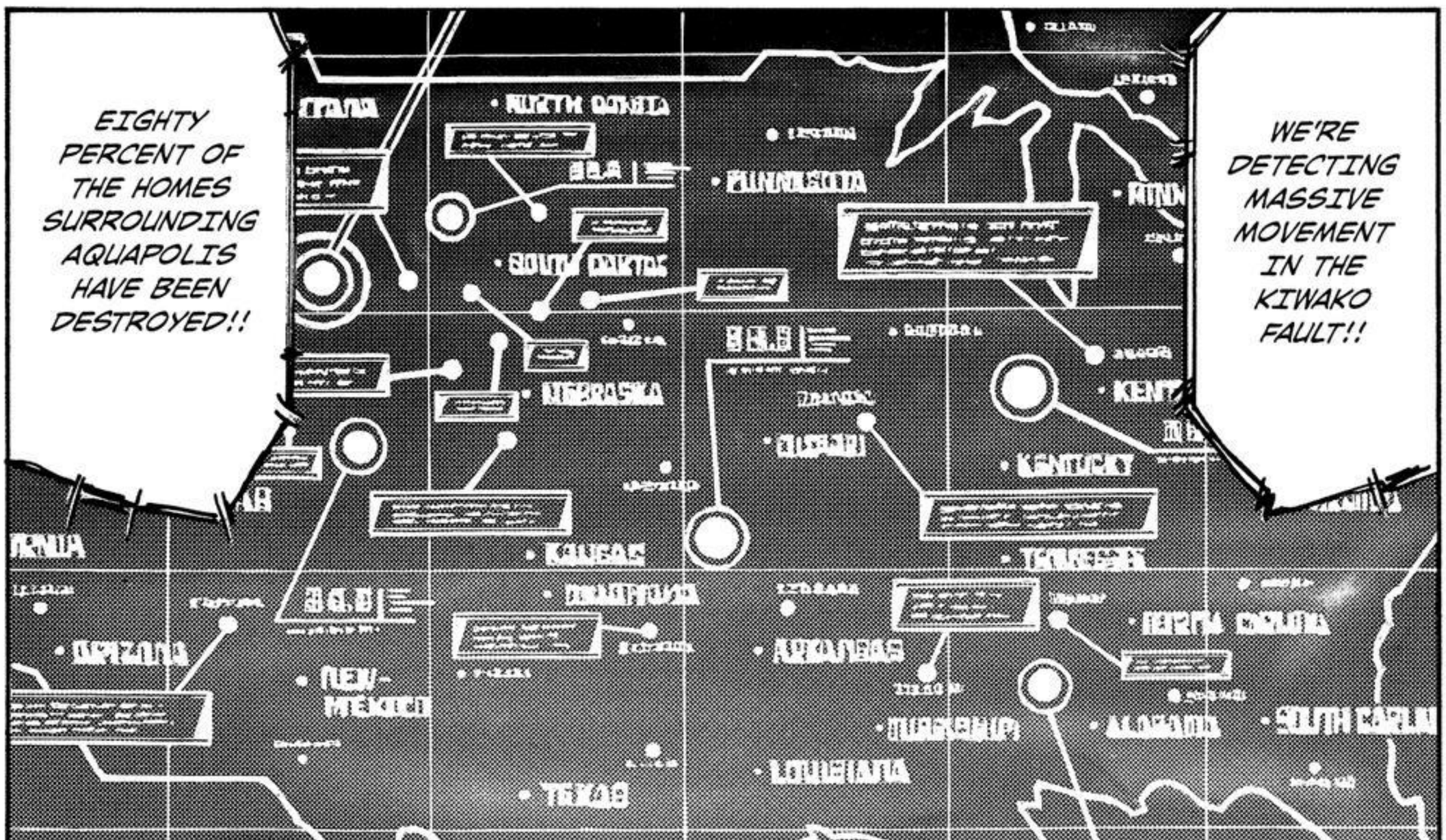

YOU ARE A BRILLIANT SCIENTIST, PROFESSOR... A GENIUS.
YOU MAY HAVE CREATED GOJI.


BUT YOU ALSO CREATED ATOM.

WHAT'S THIS...?


WHOOSH

THERE'S NO ONE HERE...


EIGHTY PERCENT OF THE HOMES SURROUNDING AQUAPOLIS HAVE BEEN DESTROYED!!
WE'RE DETECTING MASSIVE MOVEMENT IN THE KIWAKO FAULT!!
NORTH DAKOTA
MINNESOTA
SOUTH DAKOTA
NEBRASKA
KENTUCKY
KANSAS
ARIZONA
NEW-MEXICO
ARKANSAS
NORTH CAROLINA
SOUTH CAROLINA
ALABAMA
TEXAS
LOUISIANA

ANOTHER MASS EARTHQUAKE IN CAPITAL TOWN!!

NO RESPONSE FROM ORCHID CITY!!

MANY CASUALTIES AT PEARL GATE!!

RUMMBLE

YES, SIR. AND IF ANY KIND OF ADDITIONAL SHOCK SHOULD BE INTRODUCED AT THIS STAGE...

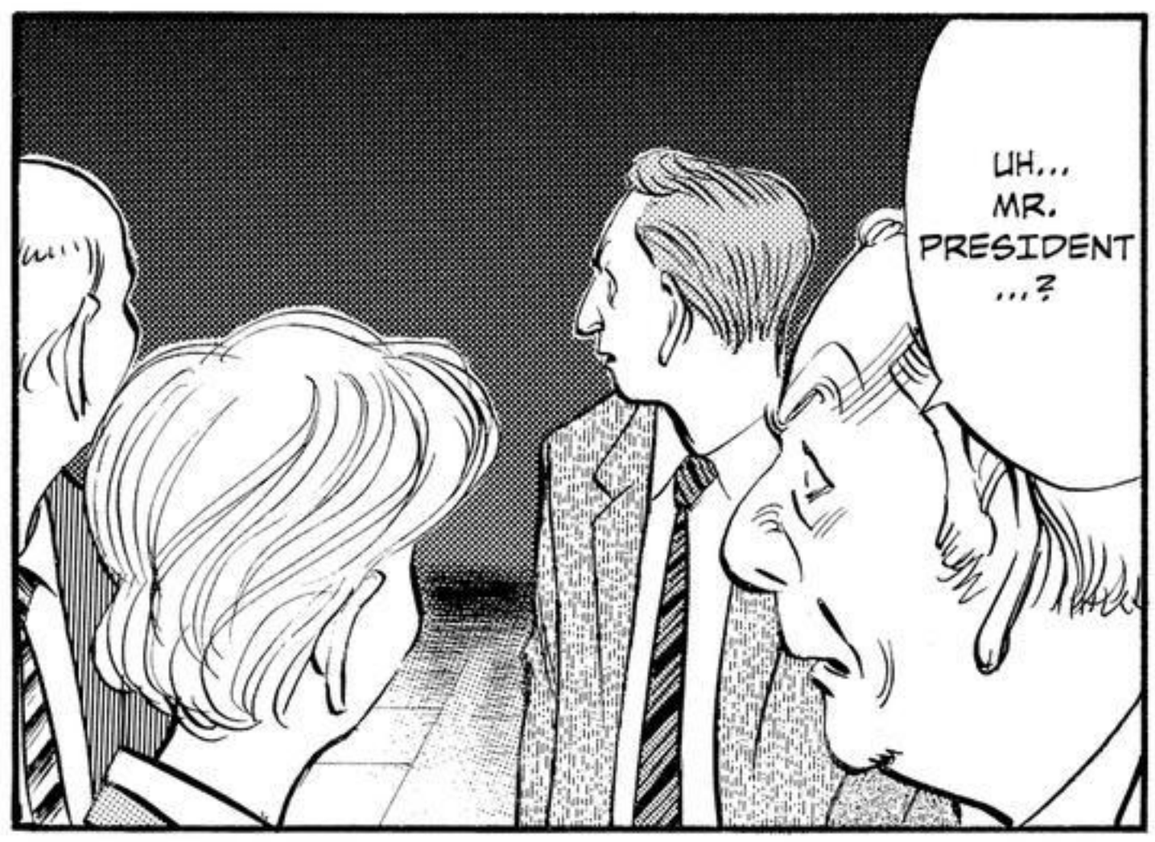
THIS IS ALL CAUSED BY CHANGES IN THE EARTH'S CRUST AT EDEN?

THERE WOULD BE SIMULTANEOUS ERUPTIONS FROM MULTIPLE CRATERS, BREAKING OPEN THE ENTIRE CALDERA!!

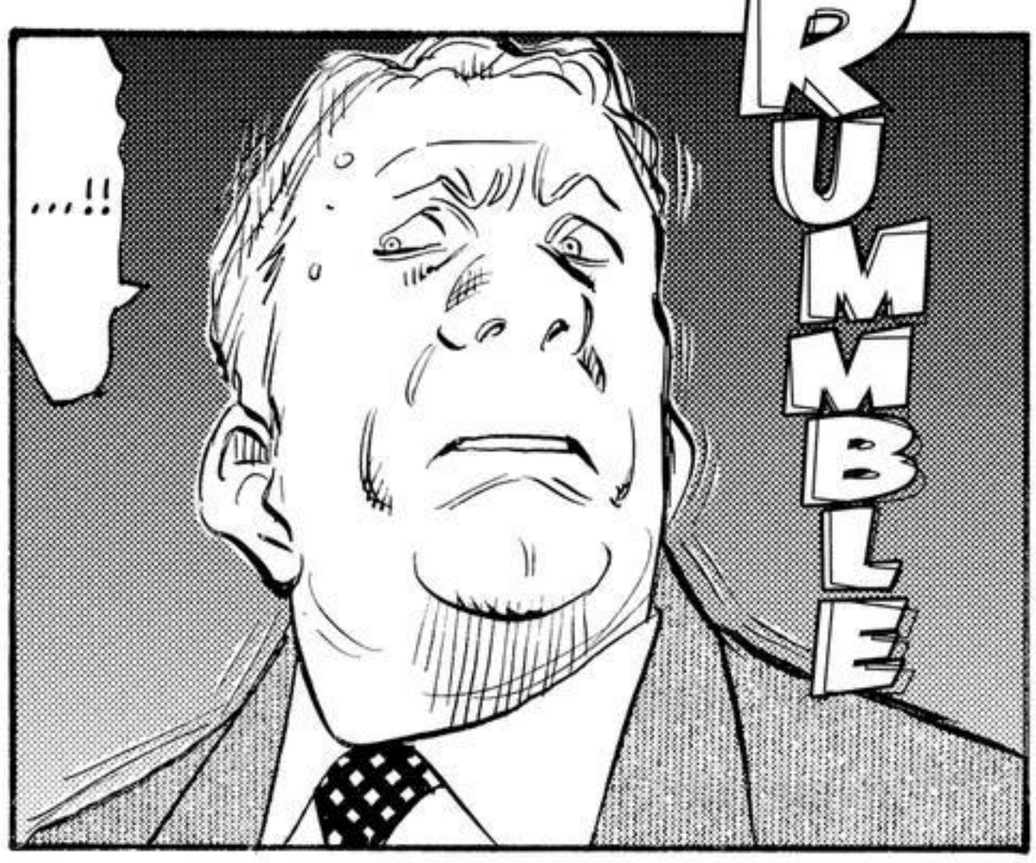
...THEN THE PROBLEM WOULD GO BEYOND A SINGLE CRATER.

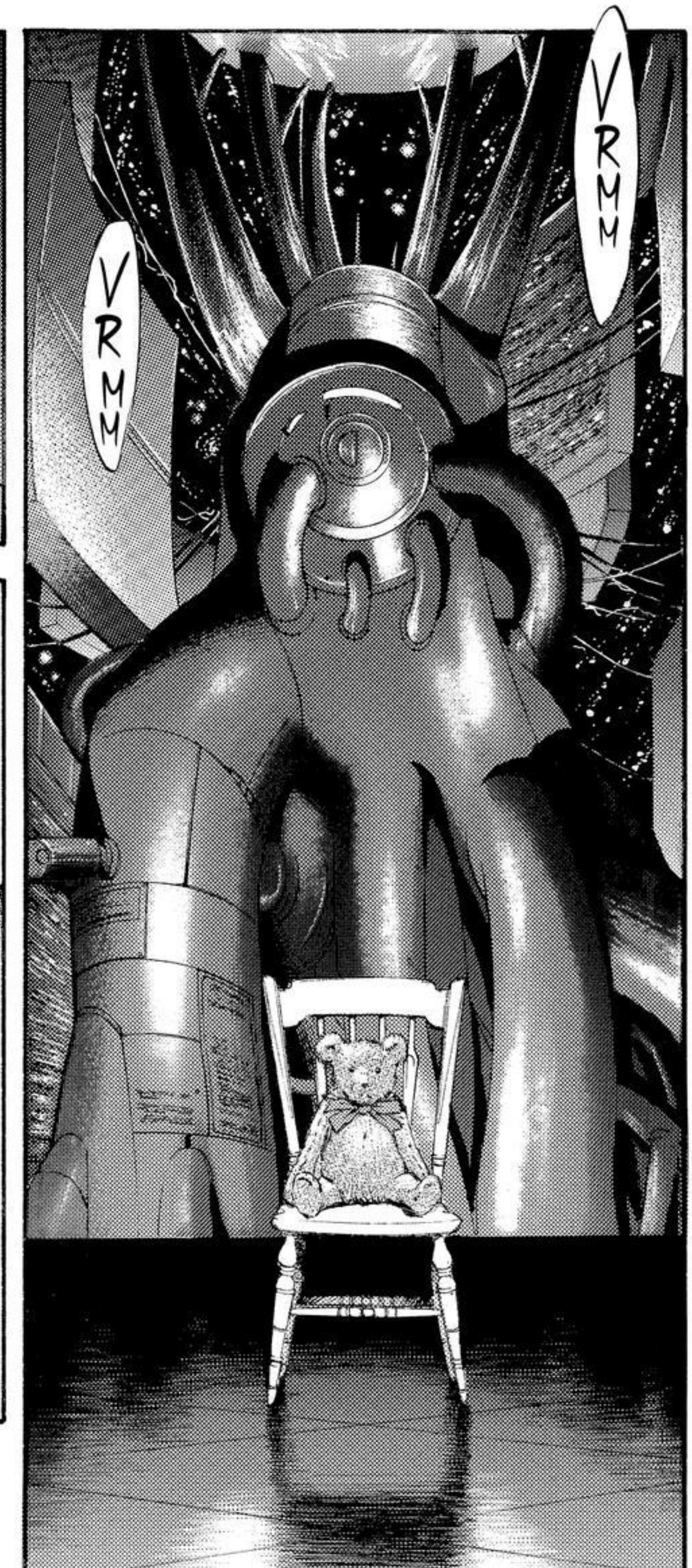
IF, FOR EXAMPLE, AN ANTIPROTON BOMB SHOULD EXPLODE...

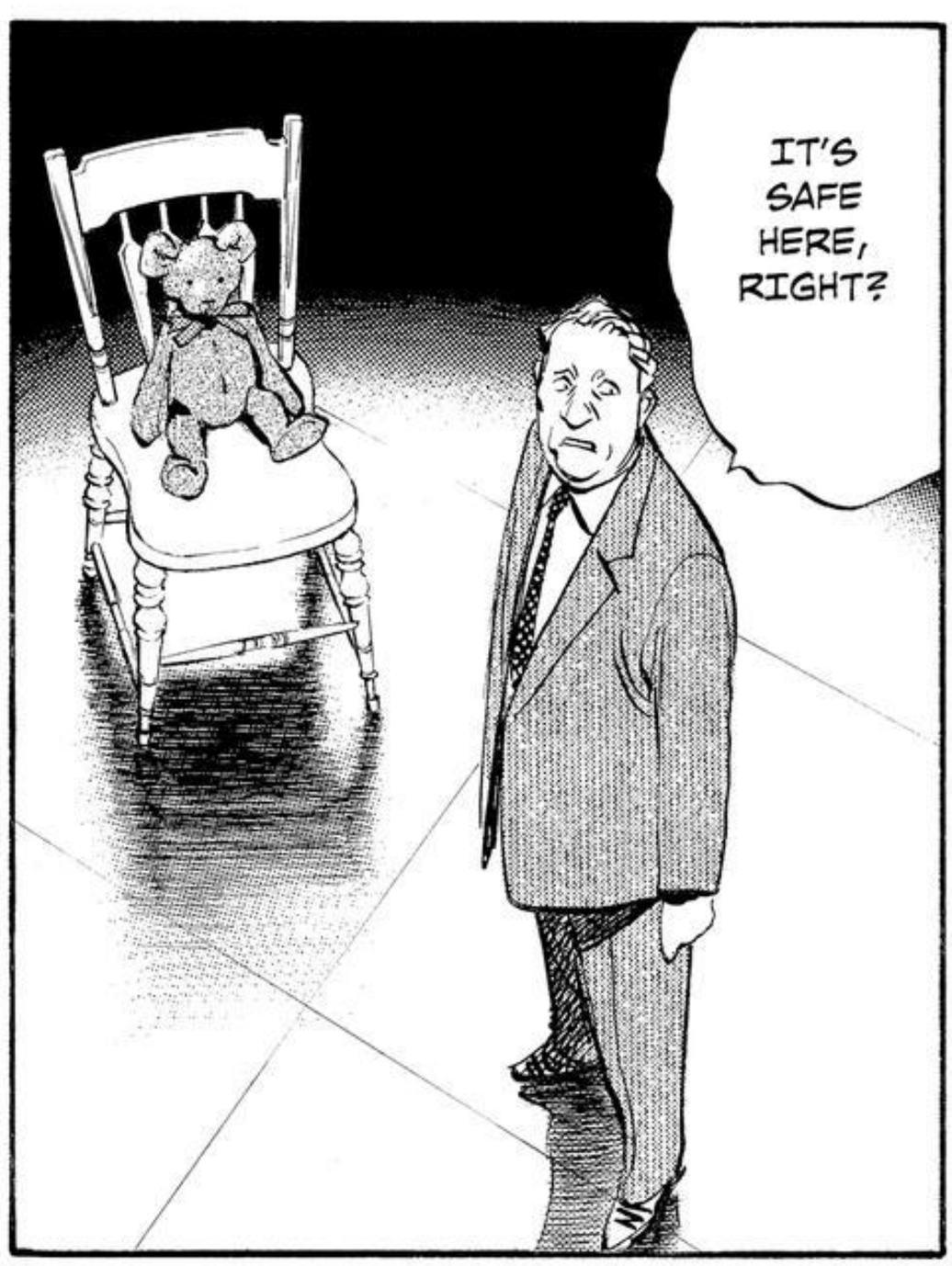
ADDITIONAL SHOCK?


UH... MR. PRESIDENT ...?

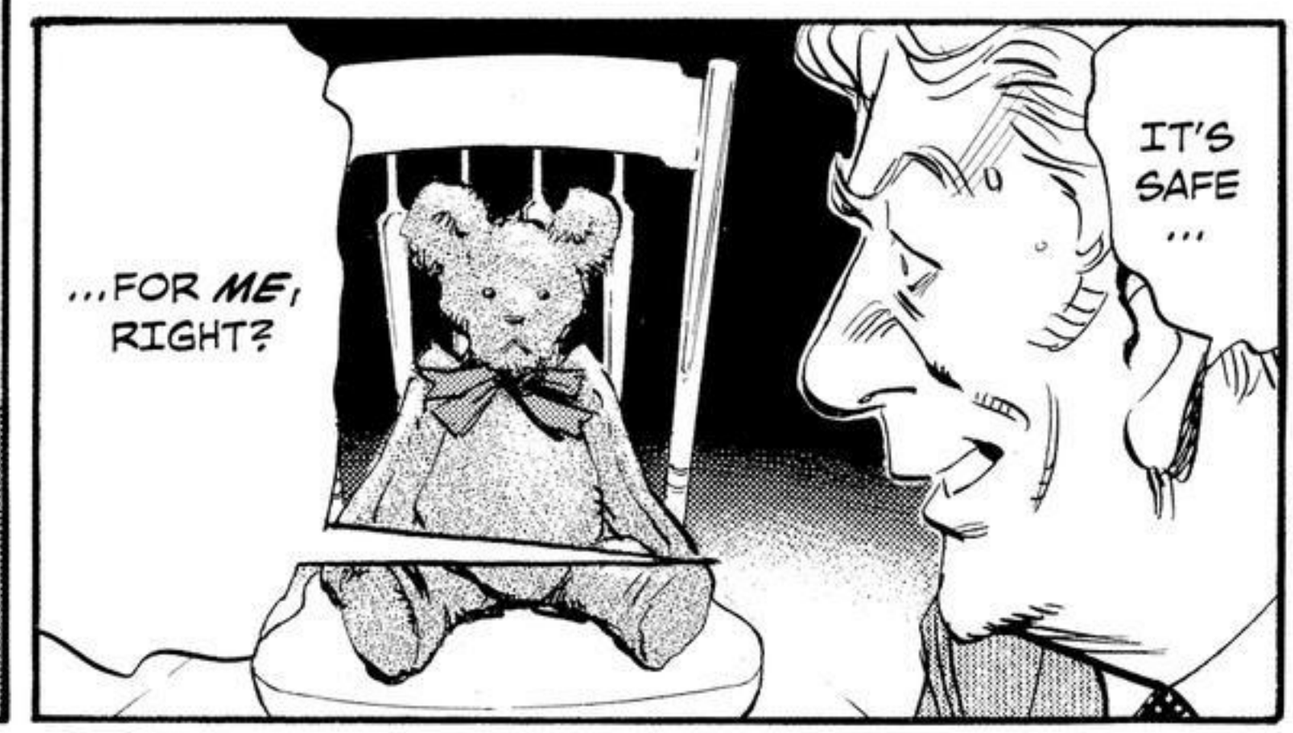
WE'VE GOT TO PUT OUT AN EVACUATION ALERT!!
MR. PRESIDENT, YOU'VE GOT TO DECLARE THIS A NATIONAL DISASTER!!

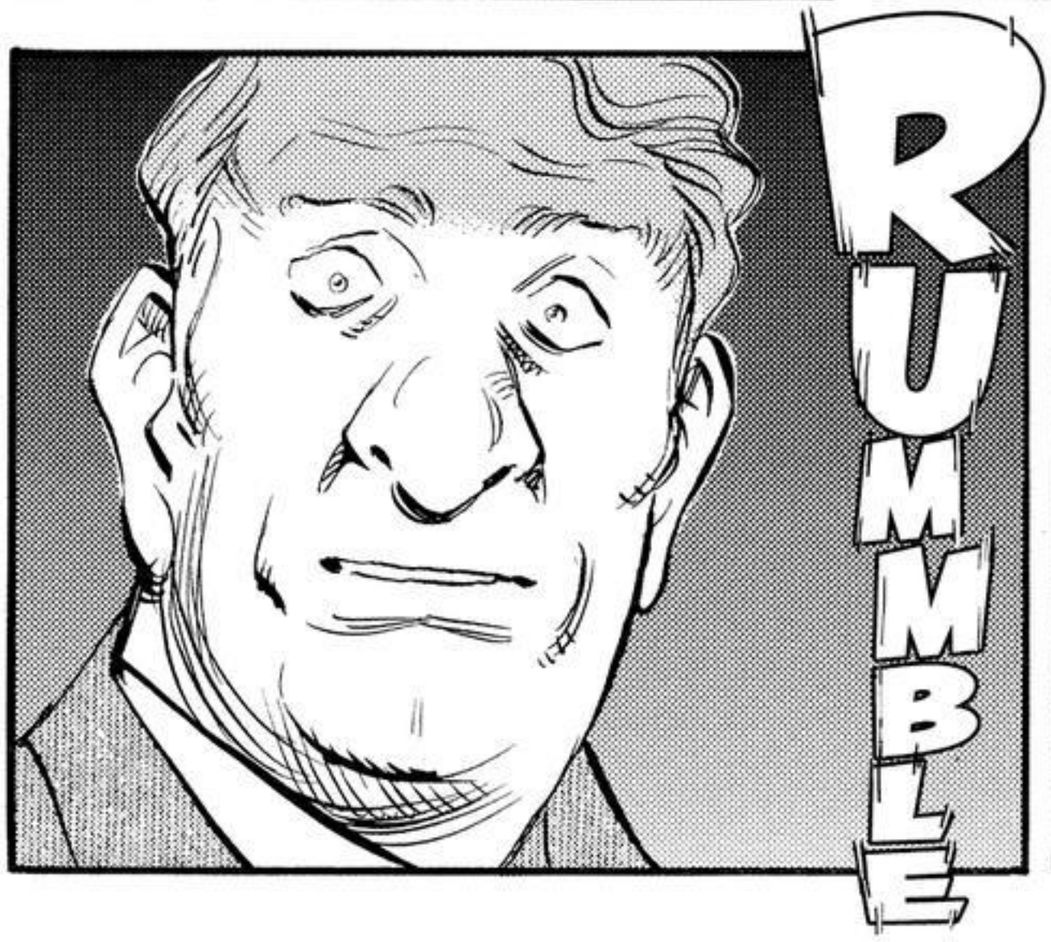

...!!
RUMMBLE

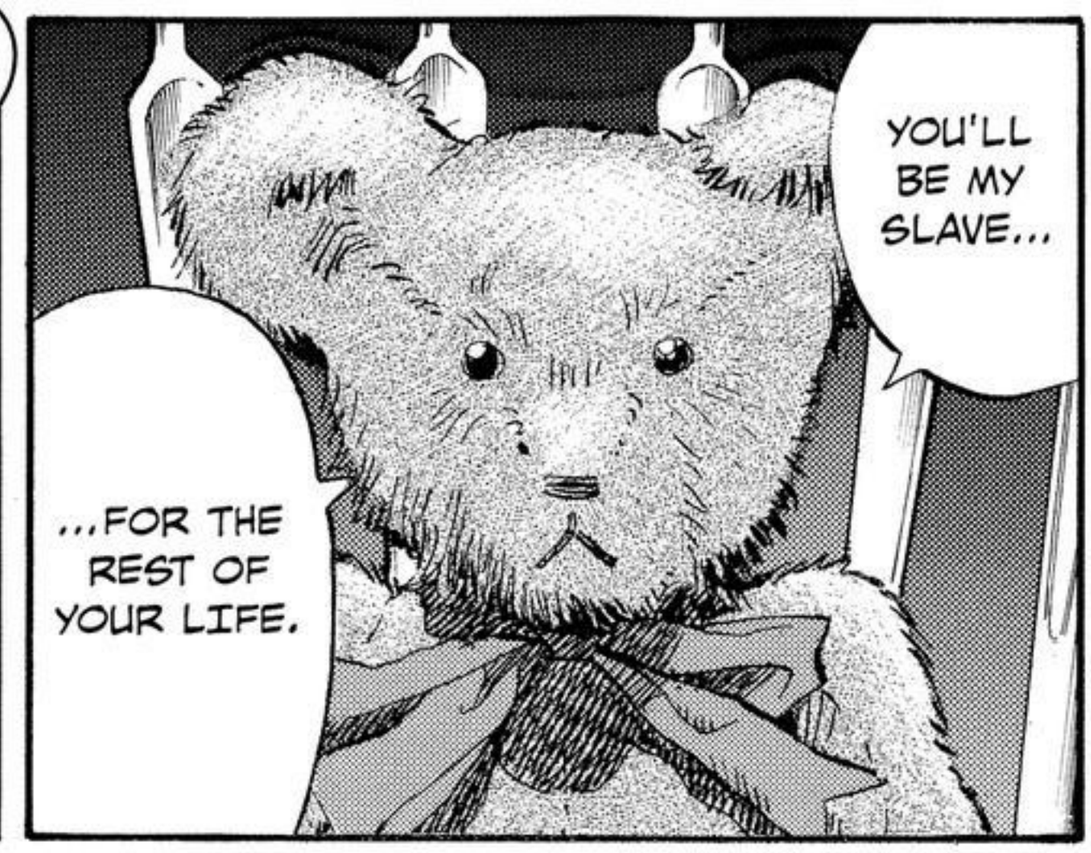

VRMM
VRMM

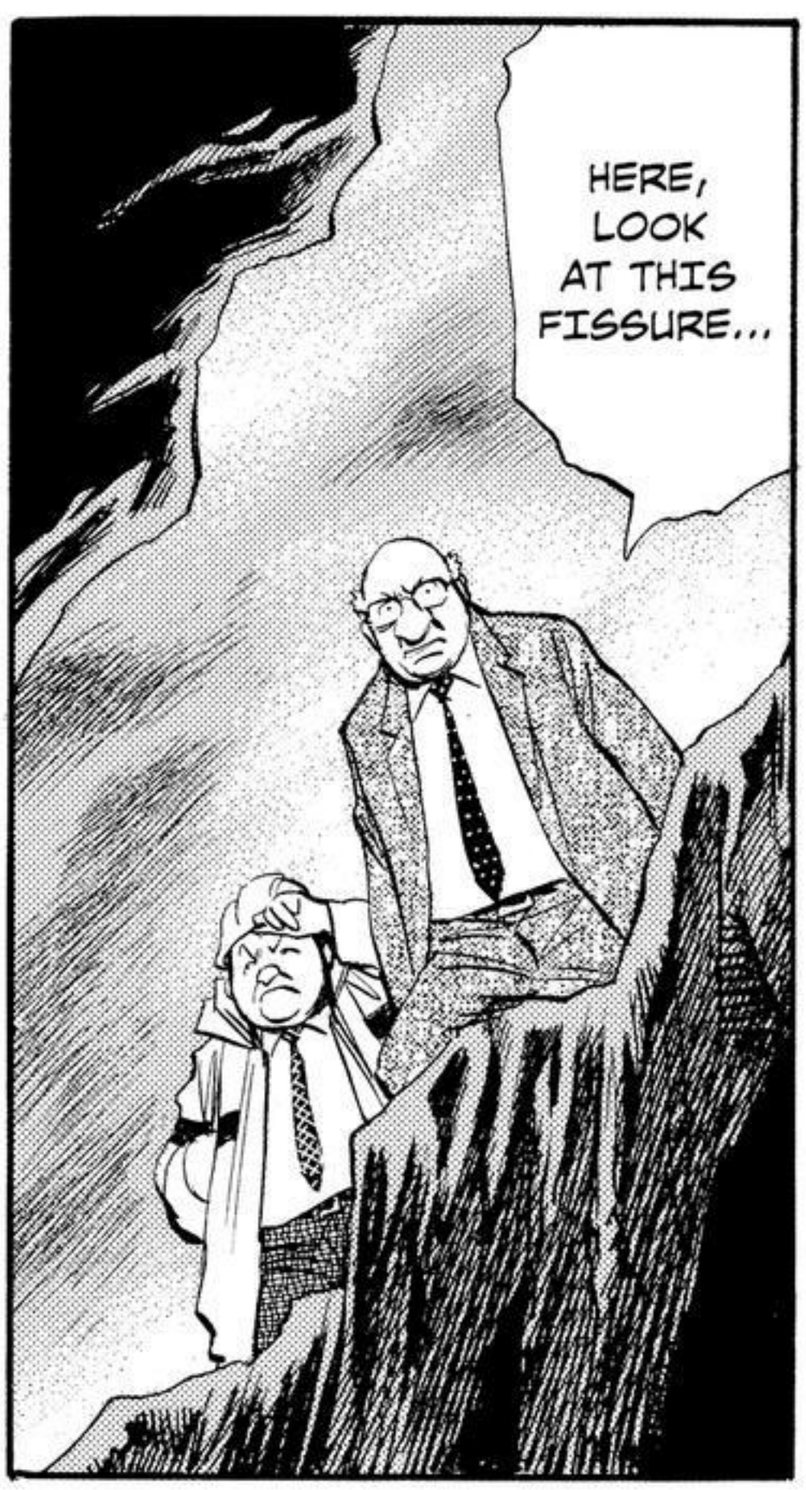

IT'S SAFE HERE, RIGHT?

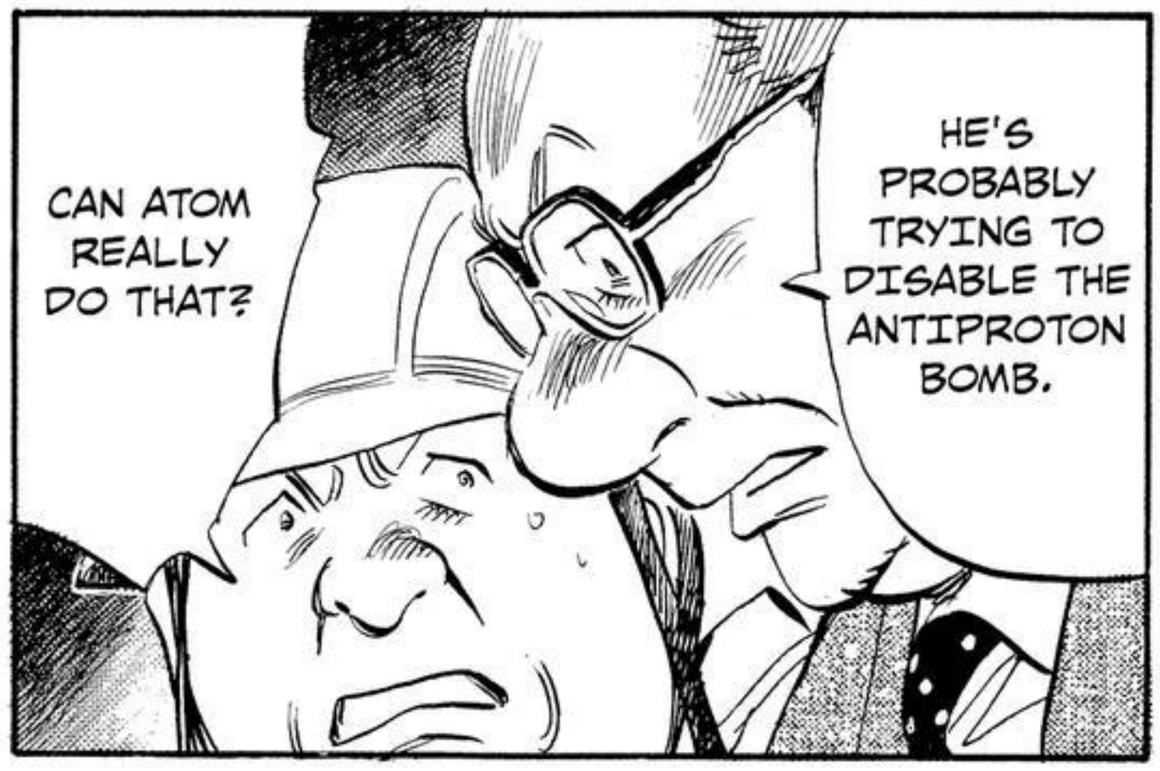
SURE, I'LL PROTECT YOU.
BUT IN RETURN...

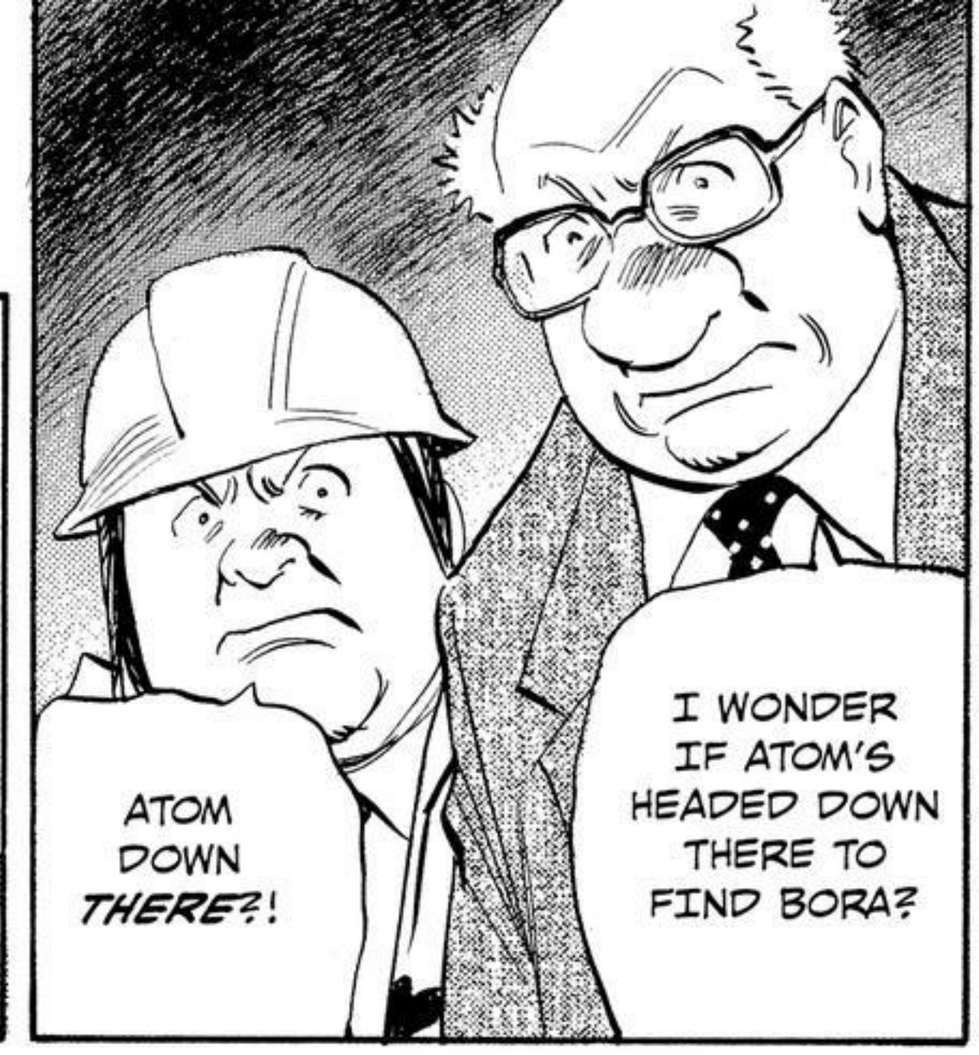

...FOR ME, RIGHT?
IT'S SAFE ...

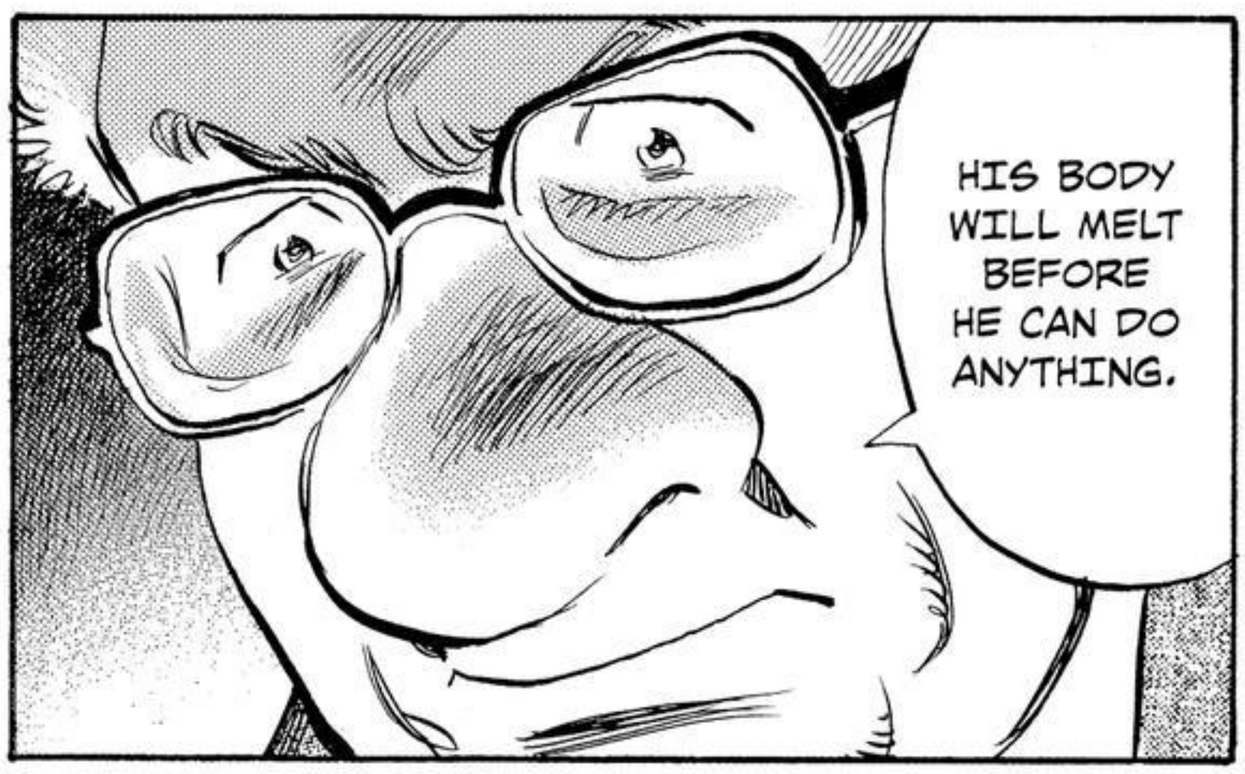

RUMMBLE

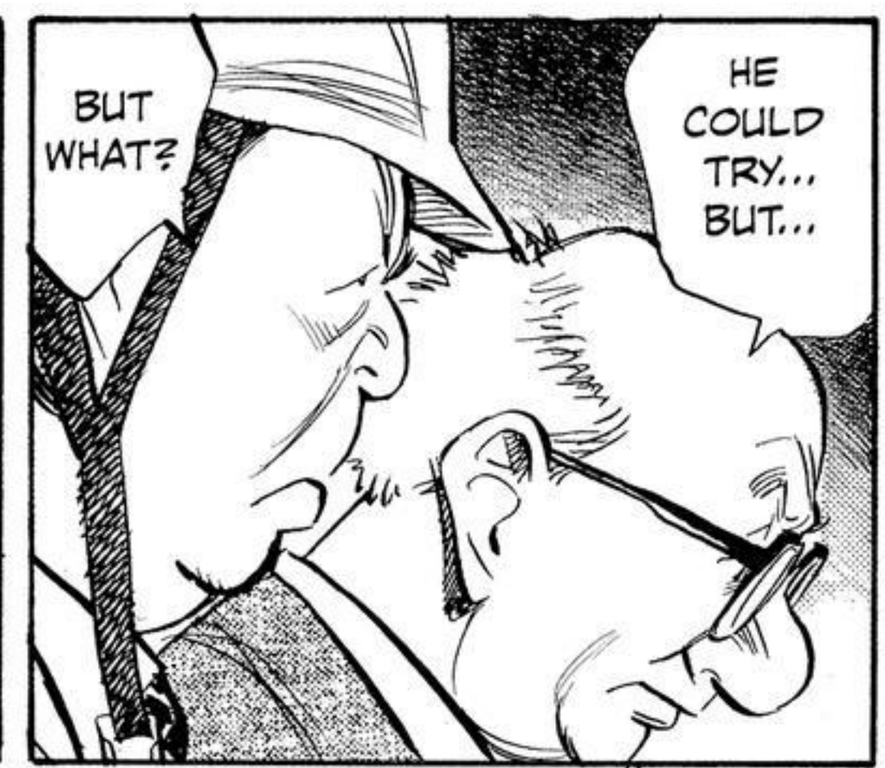

YOU'LL BE MY SLAVE...
...FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIFE.


HERE, LOOK AT THIS FISSURE...


CAN ATOM REALLY DO THAT?
HE'S PROBABLY TRYING TO DISABLE THE ANTIPROTON BOMB.

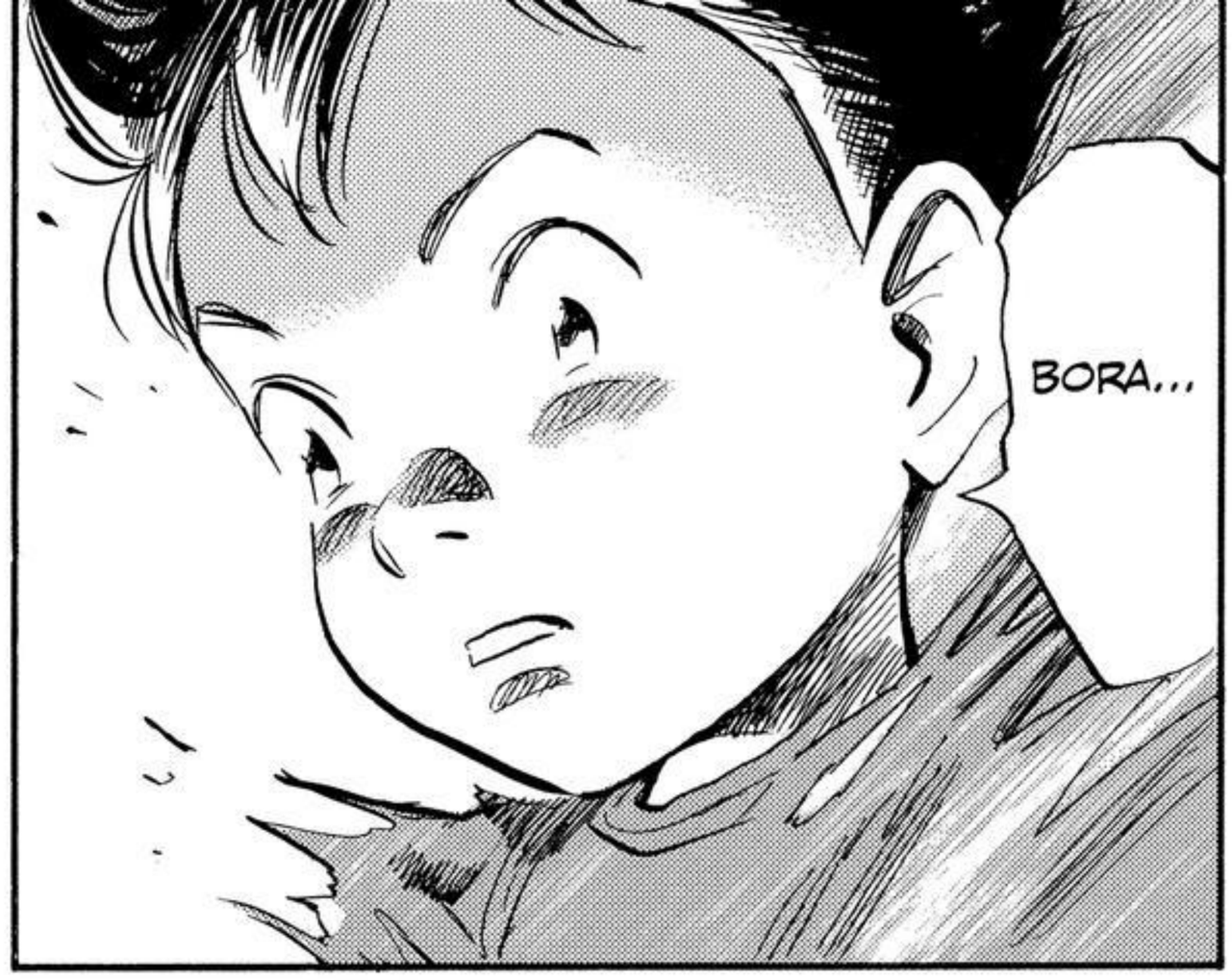

ATOM DOWN *THERE*?!
I WONDER IF ATOM'S HEADED DOWN THERE TO FIND BORA?

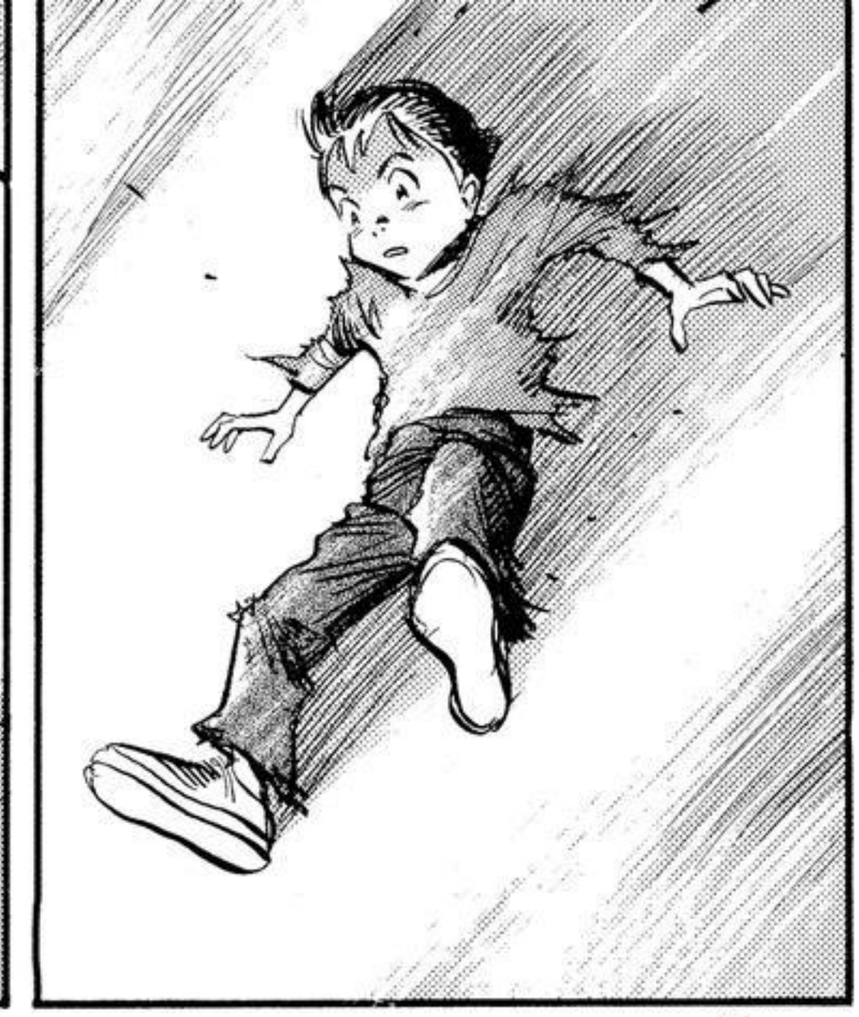

HIS BODY WILL MELT BEFORE HE CAN DO ANYTHING.

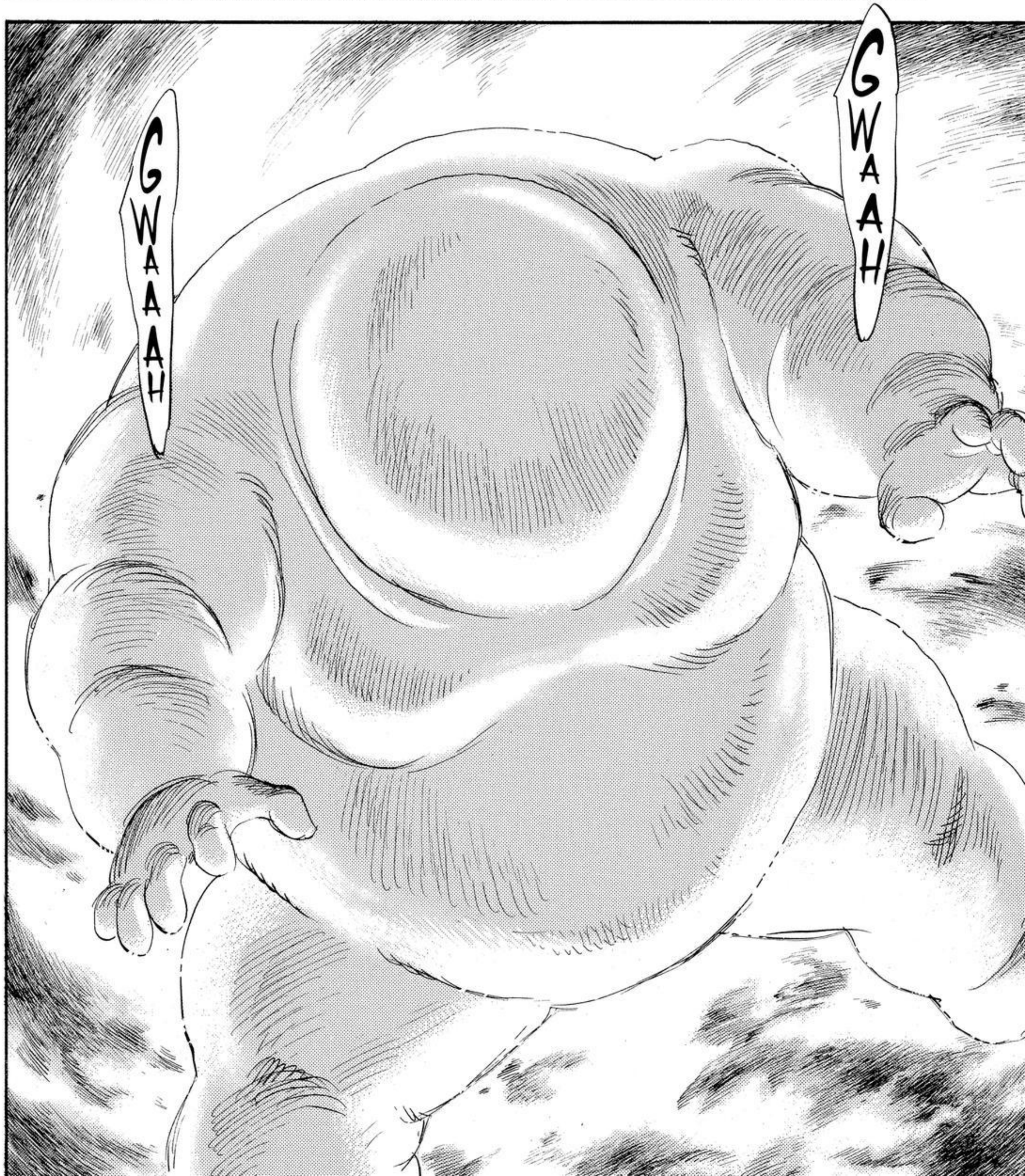

BUT WHAT?
HE COULD TRY... BUT...

SSHMM
SHMM

BORA


BORA...




GWAAAH
GWAAH

BORA! CAN YOU HEAR ME?
HE SAID THAT NOTHING COMES OF HATE!
GESICHT'S THE ONE WHO TOLD ME!
HATRED MUST BE STOPPED!
BORA!!
ROAR

ONLY FIVE MINUTES BEFORE MY BODY MELTS!
I'VE ONLY GOT FIVE MINUTES TO DISMANTLE THE ANTIPROTON BOMB...

OKAY. I'VE NO CHOICE THEN.
IT'S TIME FOR ACTION!

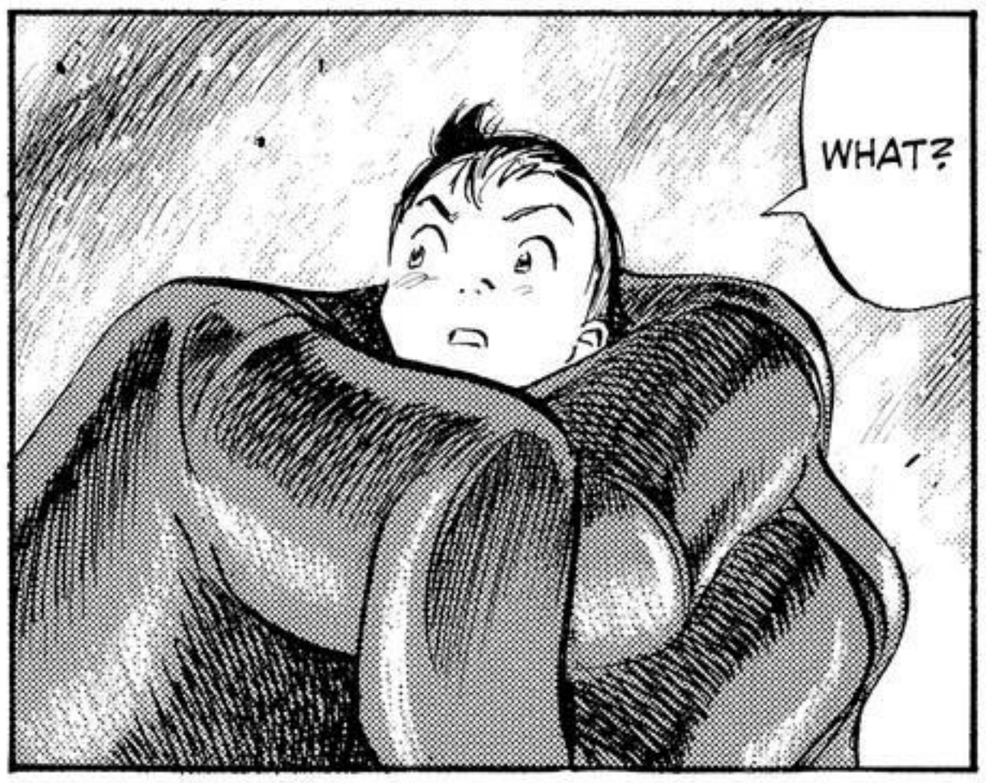
GRRB

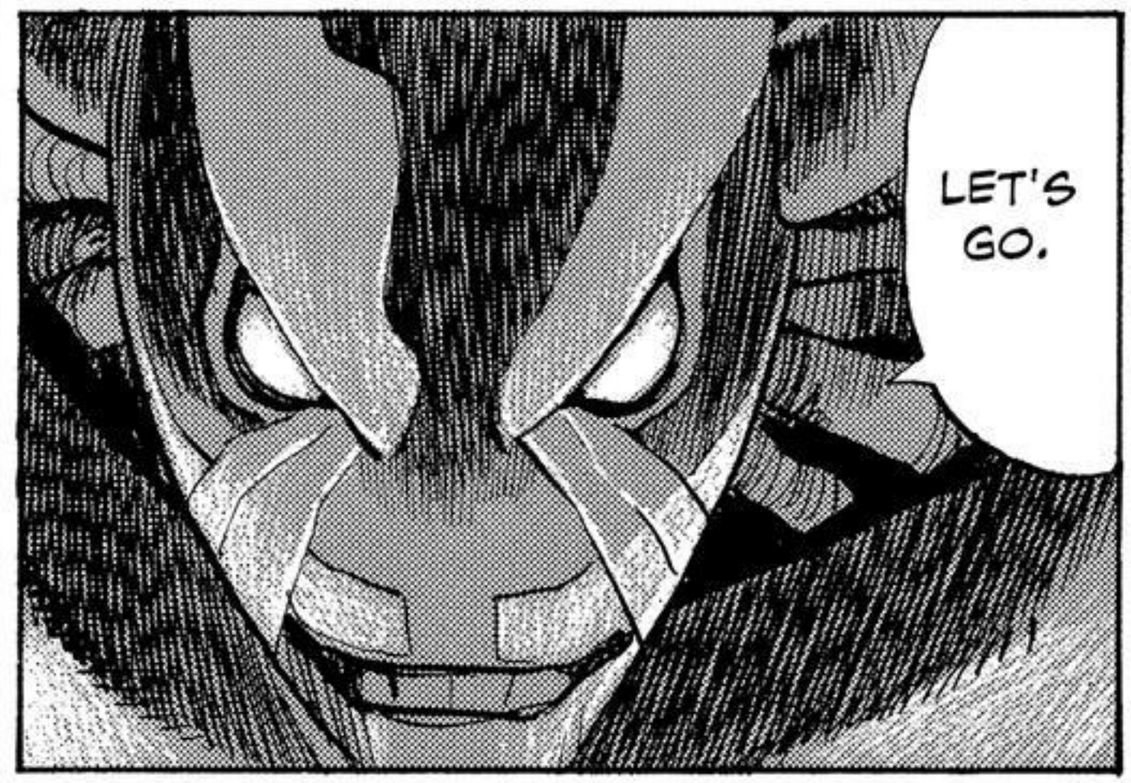
IT MAY BE THEORETICALLY IMPOSSIBLE...

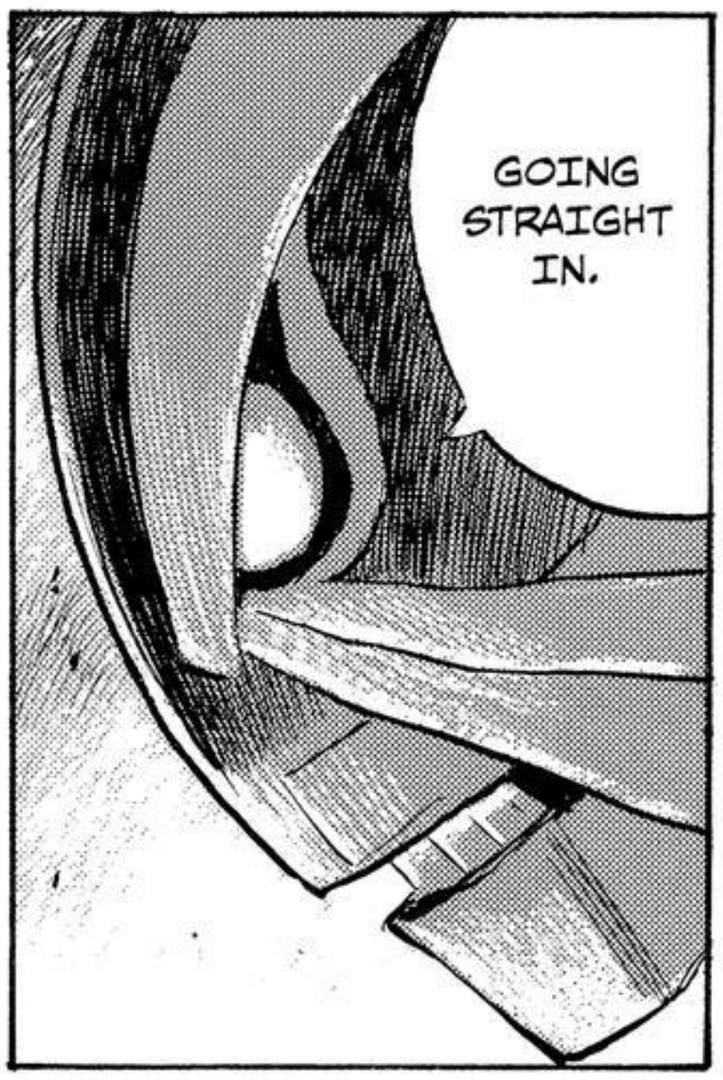
BUT I'VE GOT TO TRY!!!

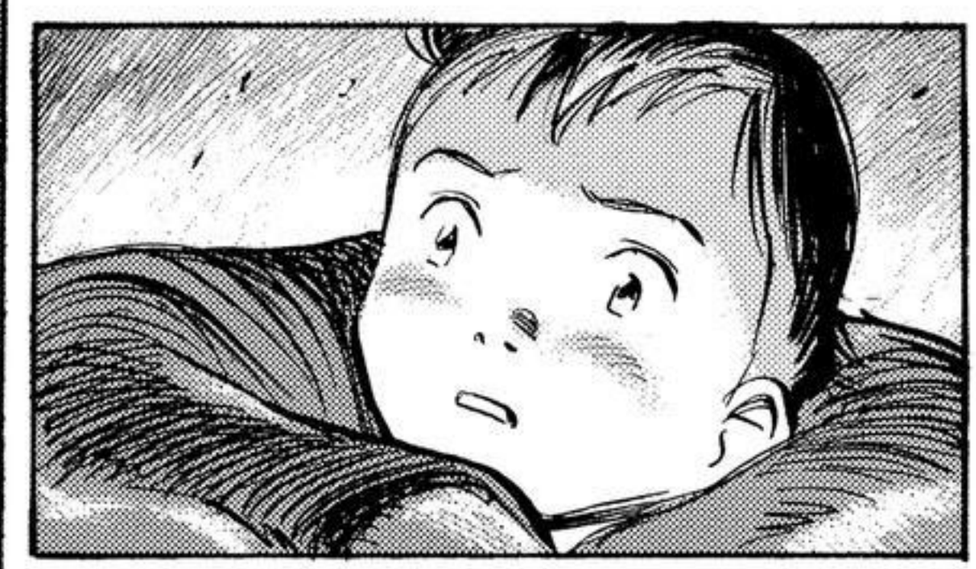
WHAT THE--?!

SAHAD...

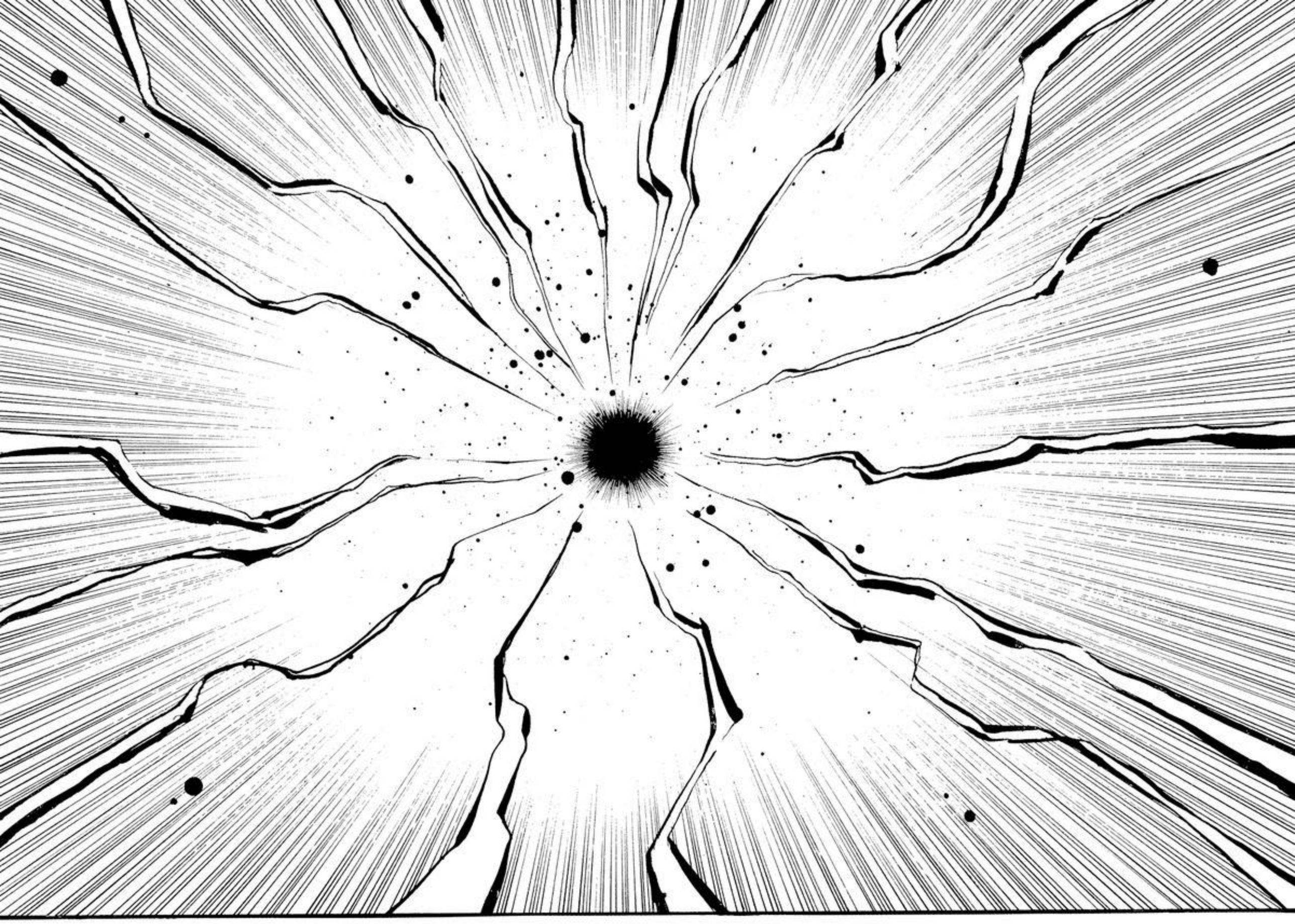








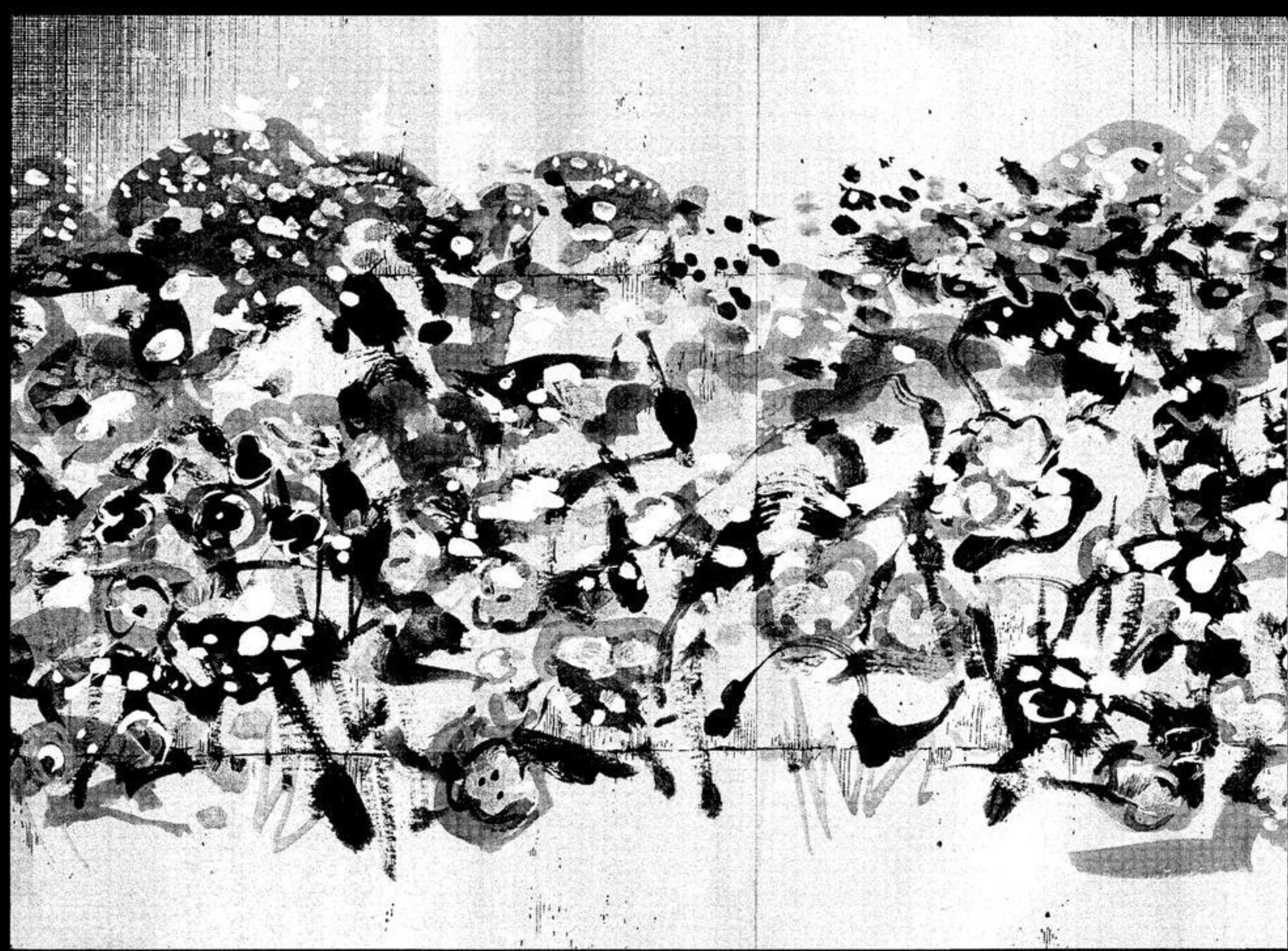
SHOW

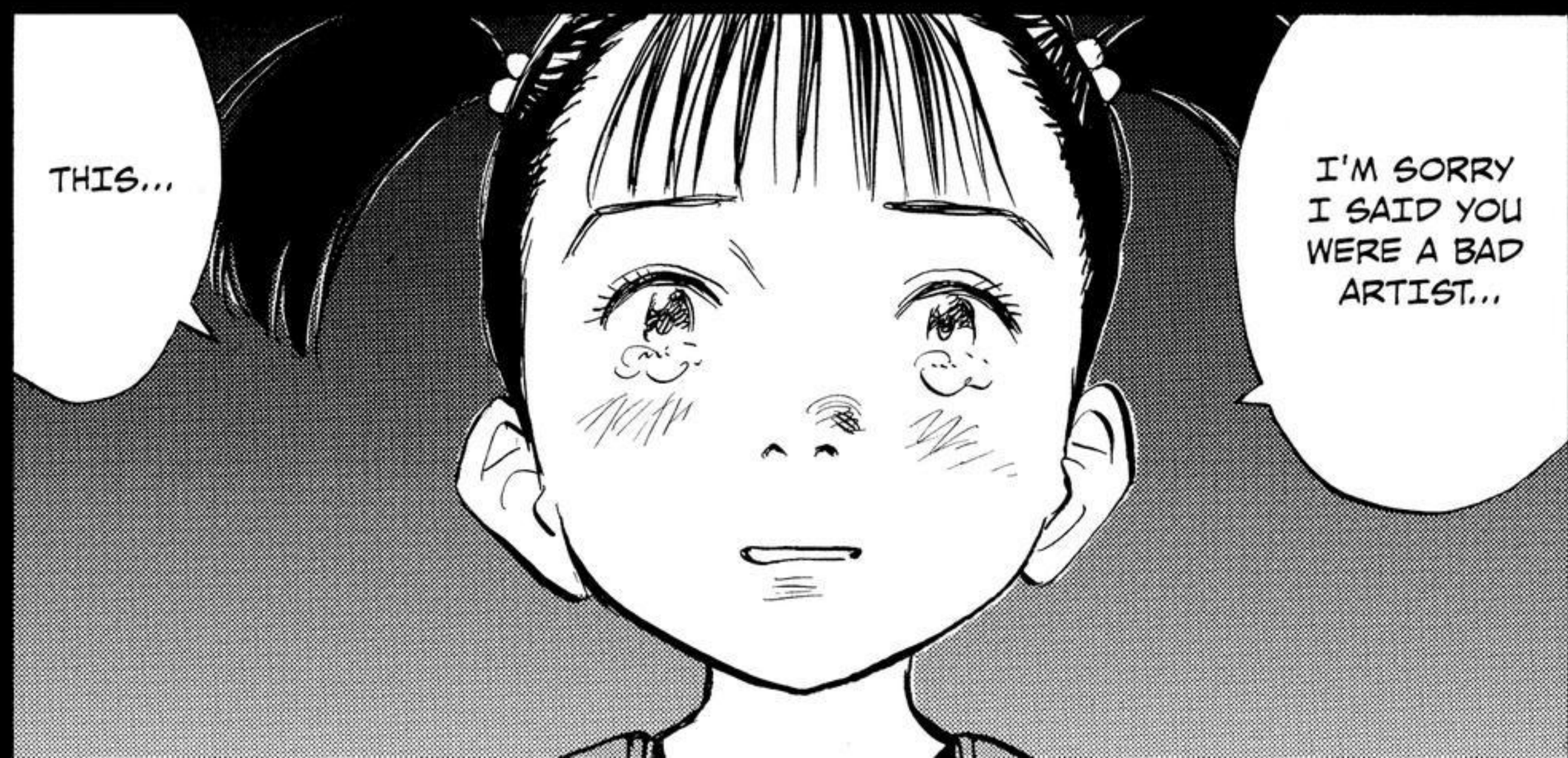


THAT INSTANT WAS HEARD AROUND THE WORLD...
ATOM...

IT WAS THE SOUND OF THE END OF THE EARTH.

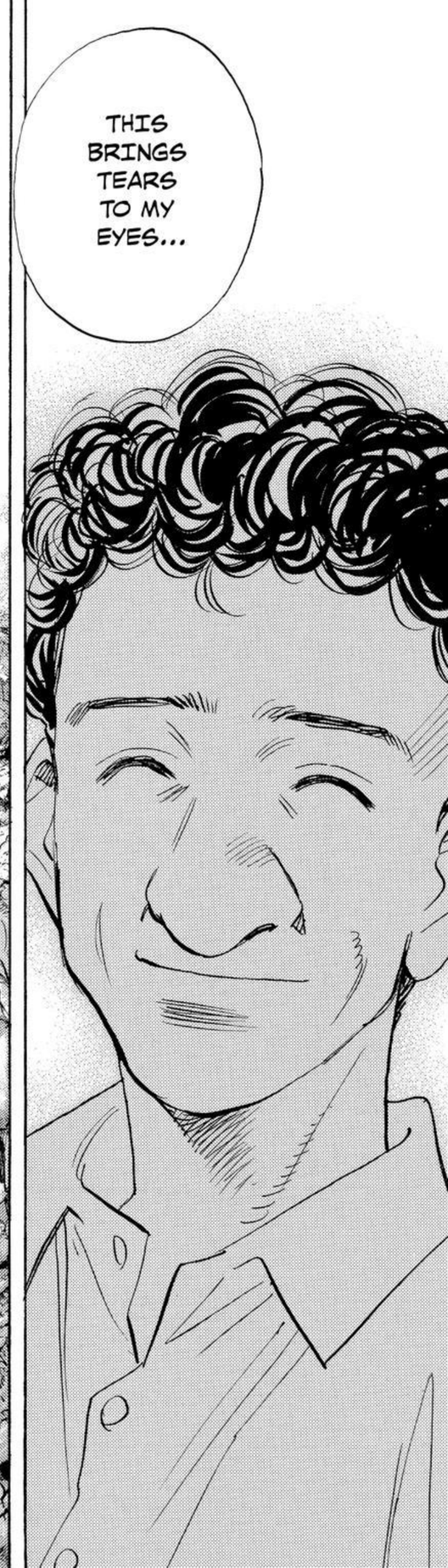
Final Act THE GREATEST ROBOT IN HISTORY





Final Act

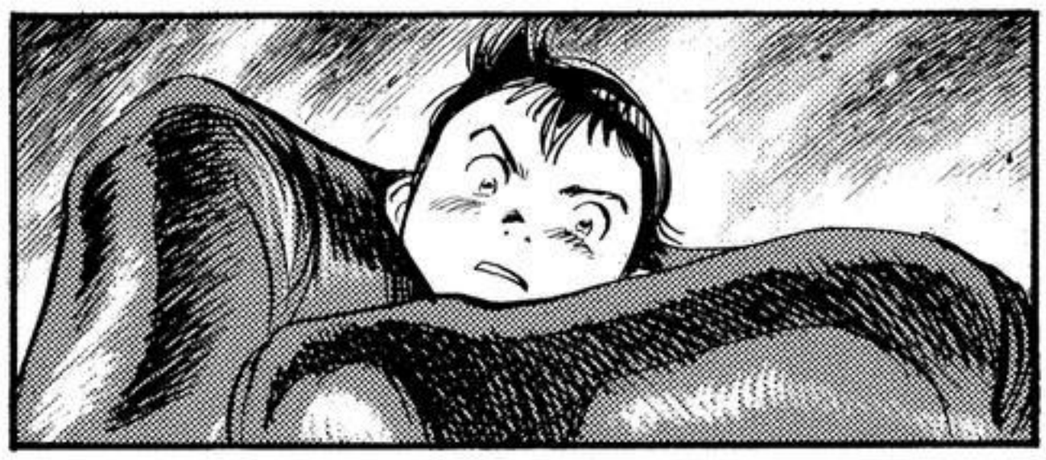
THE GREATEST ROBOT IN HISTORY



PLUTO!!
...OR SHOULD I SAY SAHAD...? YOU CANNOT STOP ME!

I AM ABULLAH!

YOUR CREATOR!



I AM YOUR FATHER!

MY FATHER... PROFESSOR ABULLAH... IS DEAD.

YOU ARE GOJI! YOU ONLY THINK YOU'RE ABULLAH.

NO...

YOU ARE *GOJI.*

I AM ABULLAH !!

I AM ABULLAH !!

YOU ARE ONLY AN ARTIFI-CIAL BRAIN!!

I AM ABULLAH !!

I AM ABULLAH !!

BORA

YOU'RE *WRONG*!!

...FROM *HATE.*

NOTHING WILL COME...

GWAAAA

P

O

A

R

GWAAAA

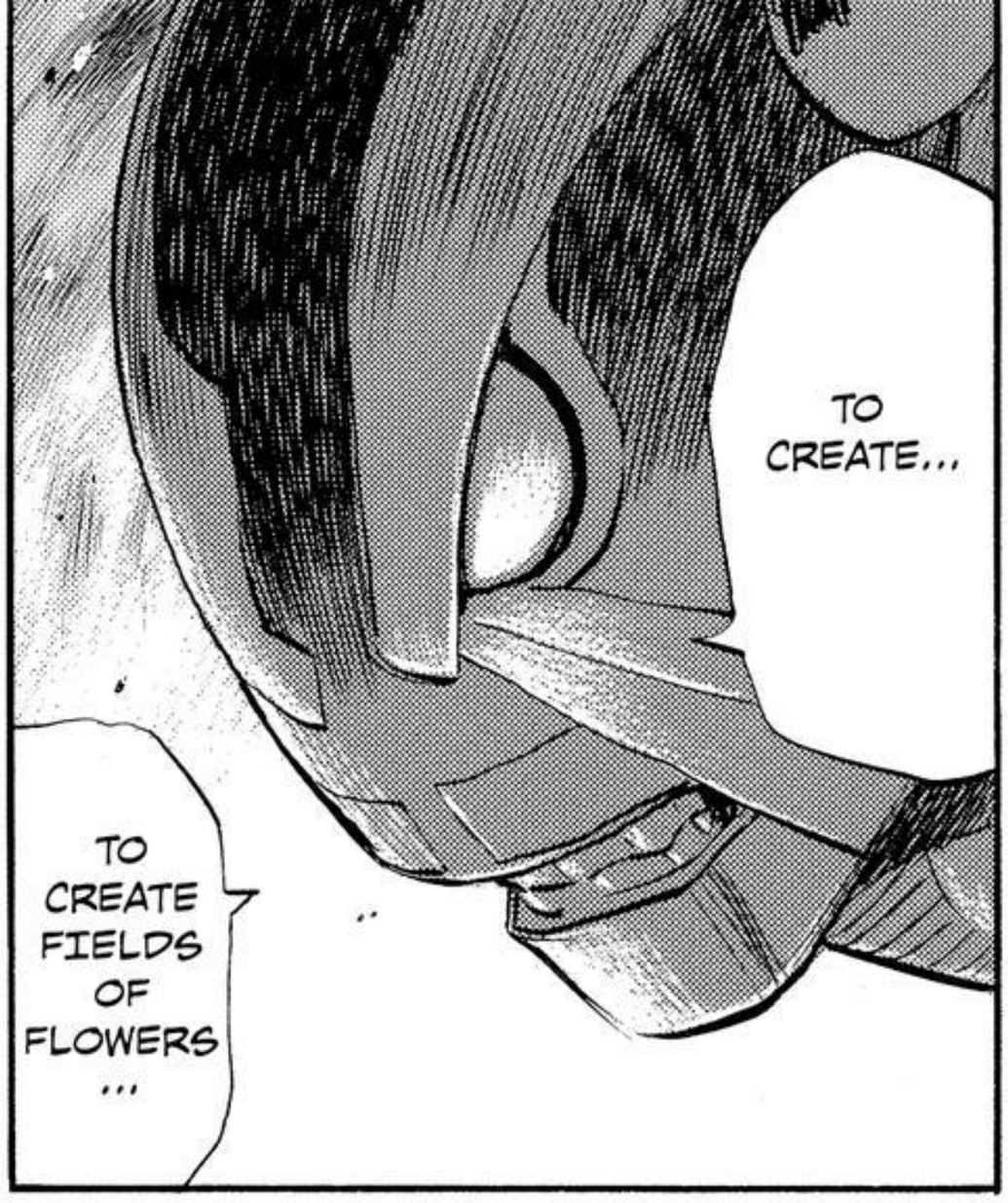
GIVE MY REGARDS TO URAN.

WHAT...?

MY BODY'S GONNA *MELT*!!

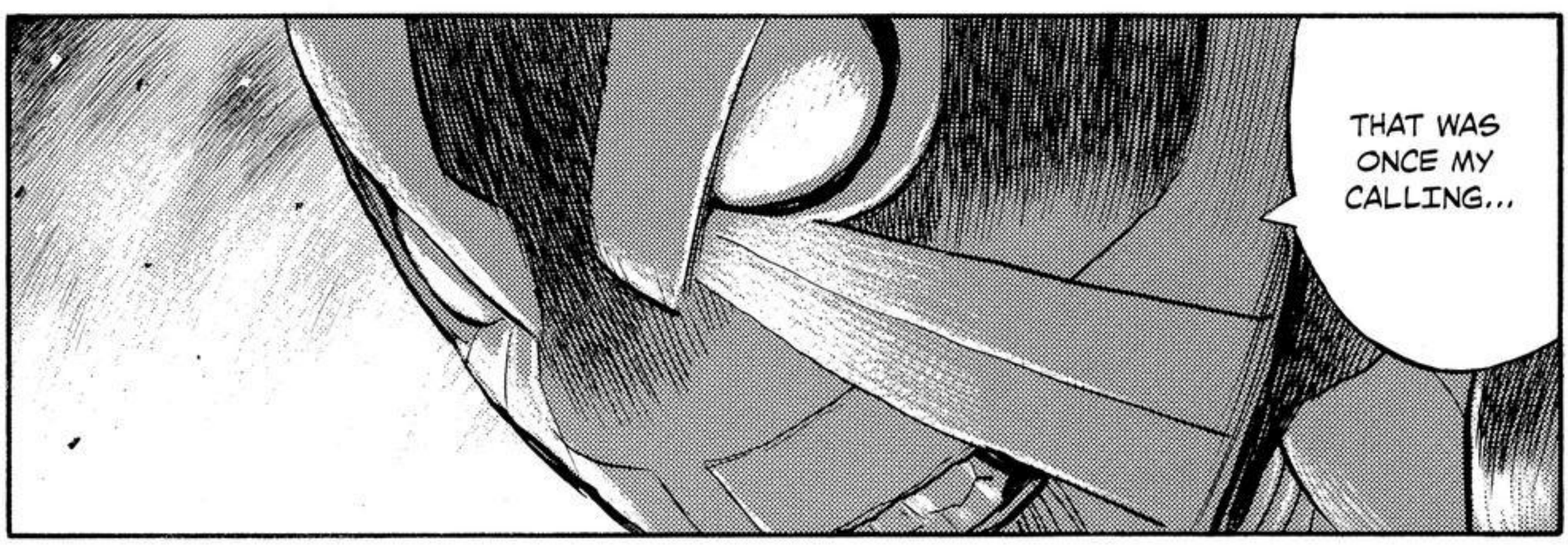
IF I DON'T DISMANTLE THE ANTI-PROTON BOMB SOON ...

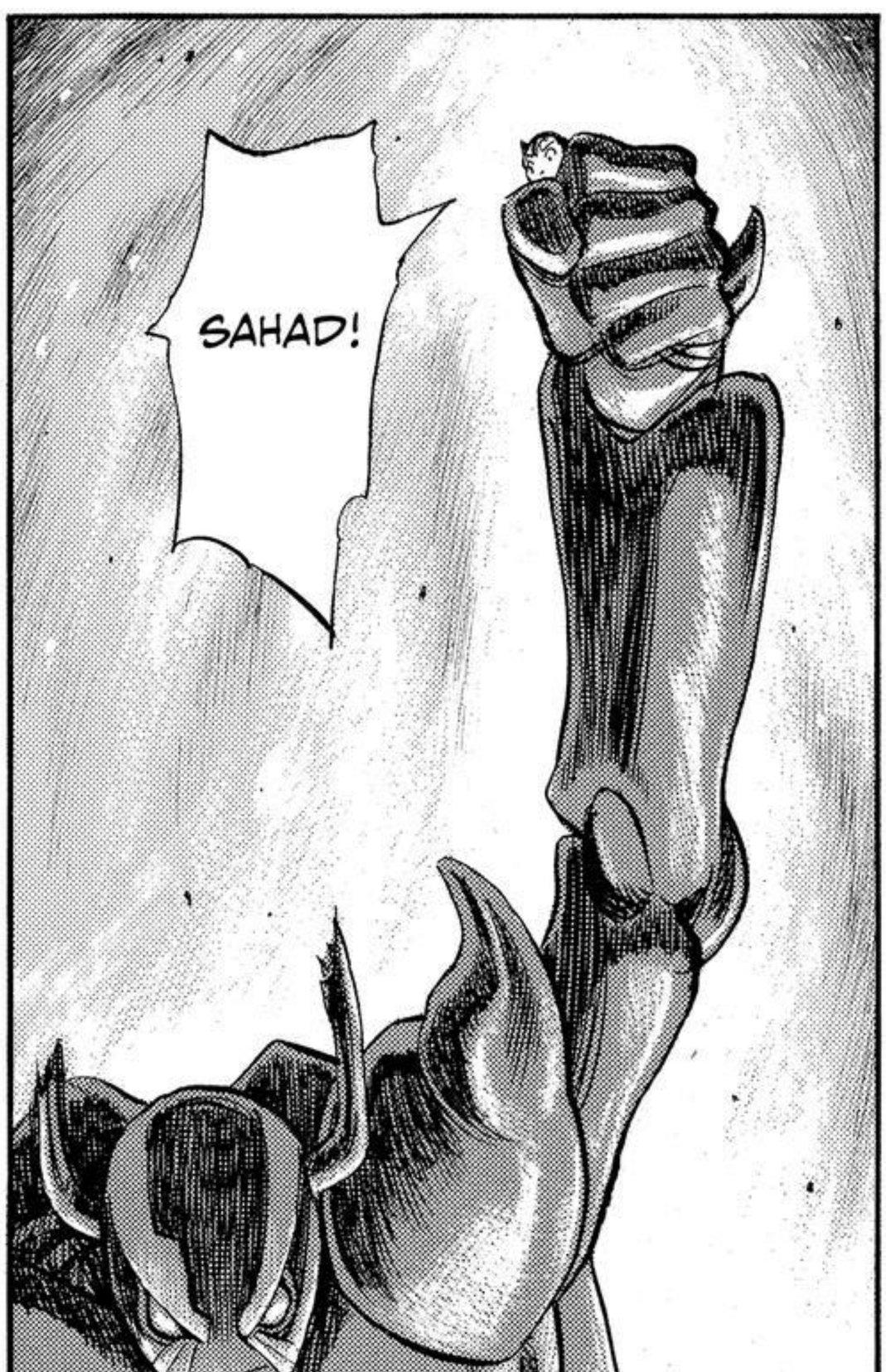
ATOM...


TO CREATE...
TO CREATE FIELDS OF FLOWERS ...

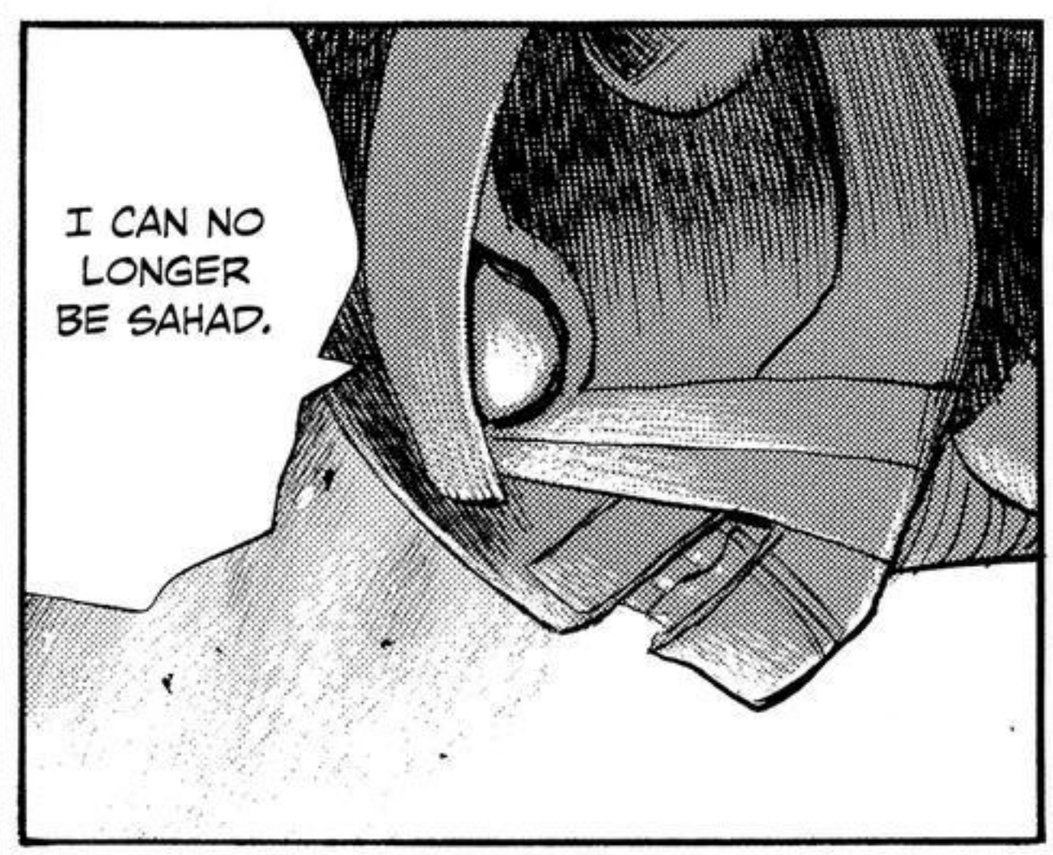
WE PAINTED A PICTURE...

SAHAD...


THAT WAS ONCE MY CALLING...

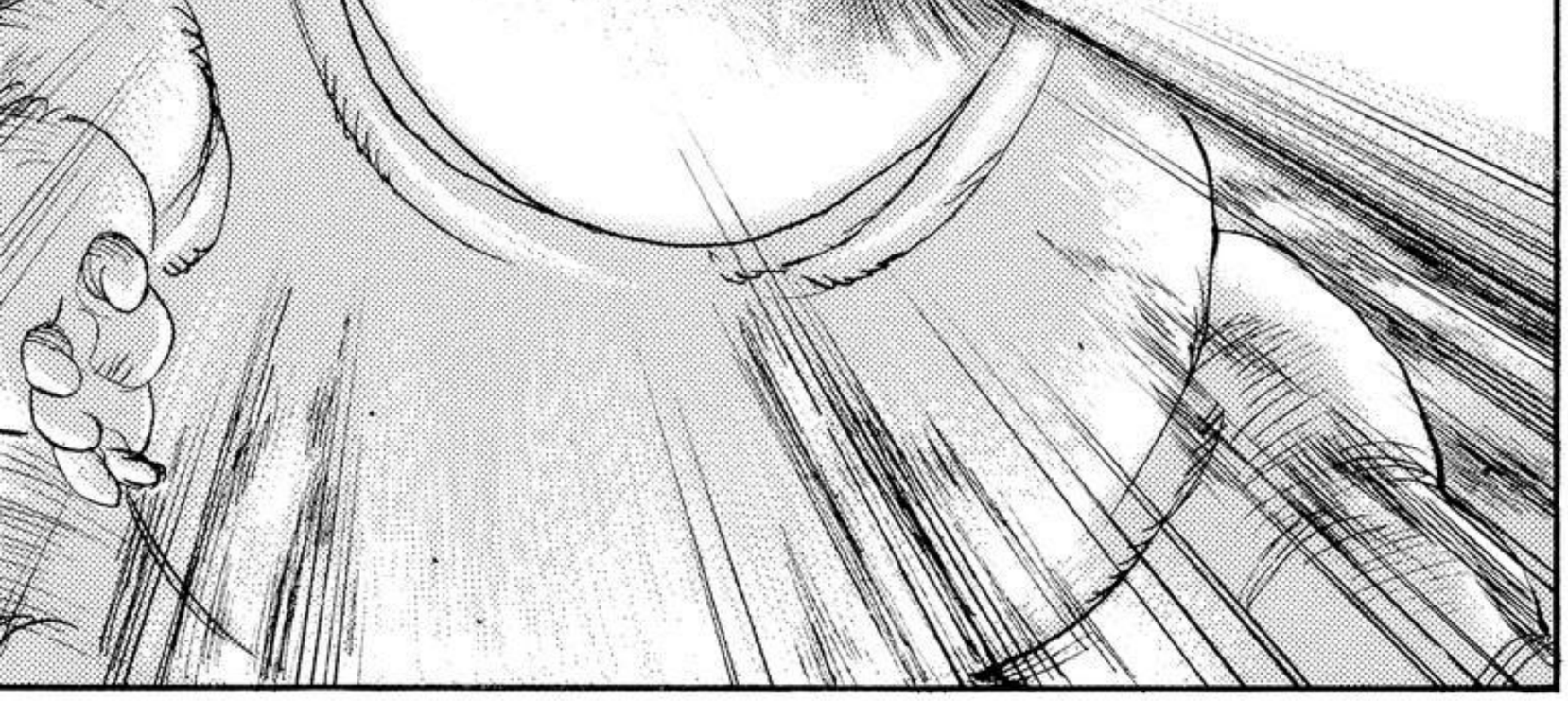

SAHAD!

SAHAD!

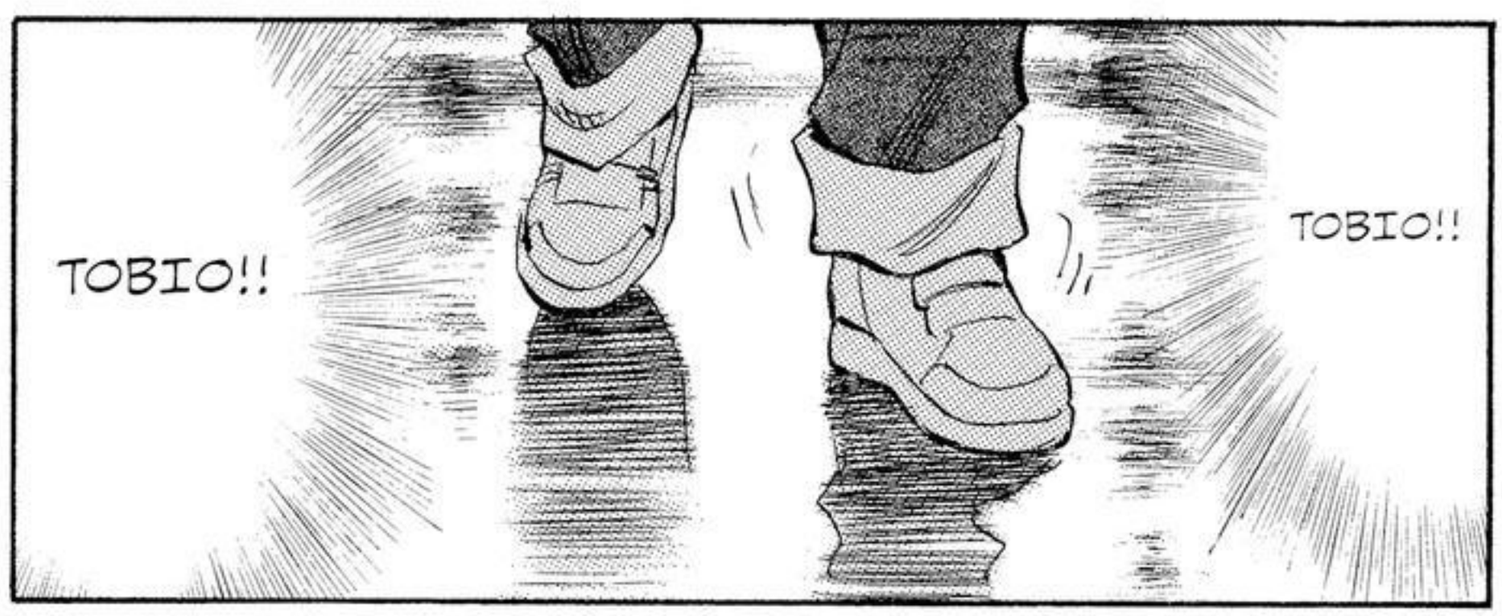

I CAN NO LONGER BE SAHAD.

SAHAD!!

!!
DOOM



SAHAD!!!


TOBIO!!
TOBIO!!

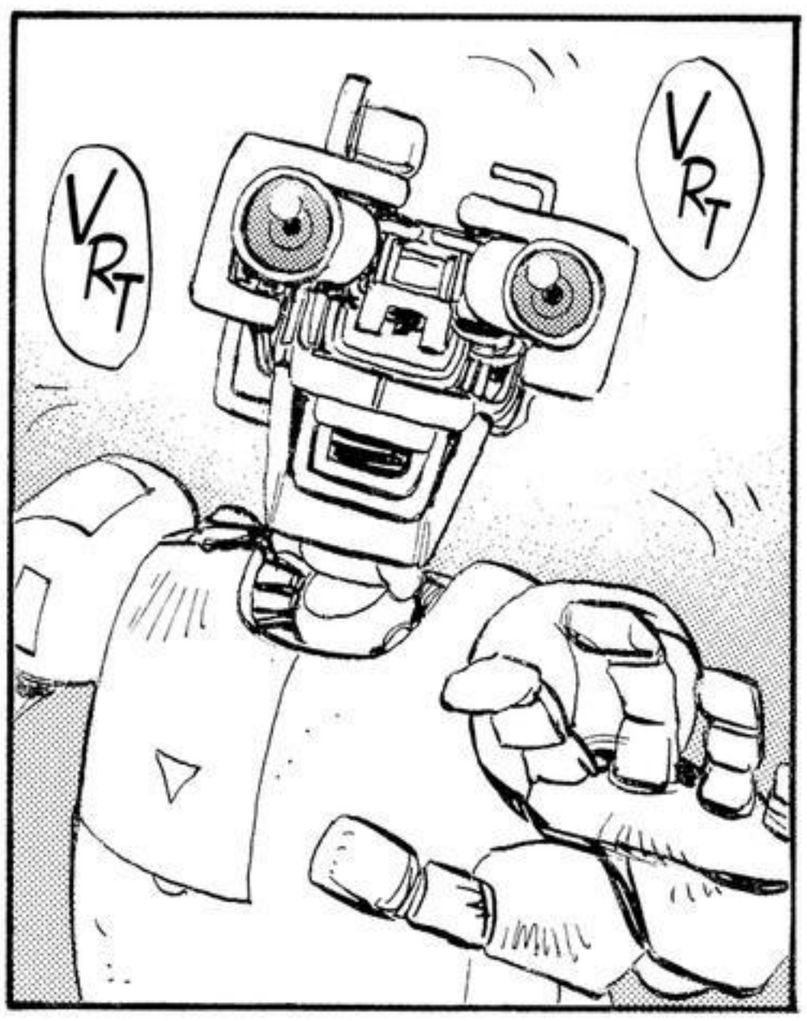
TOBIO!!

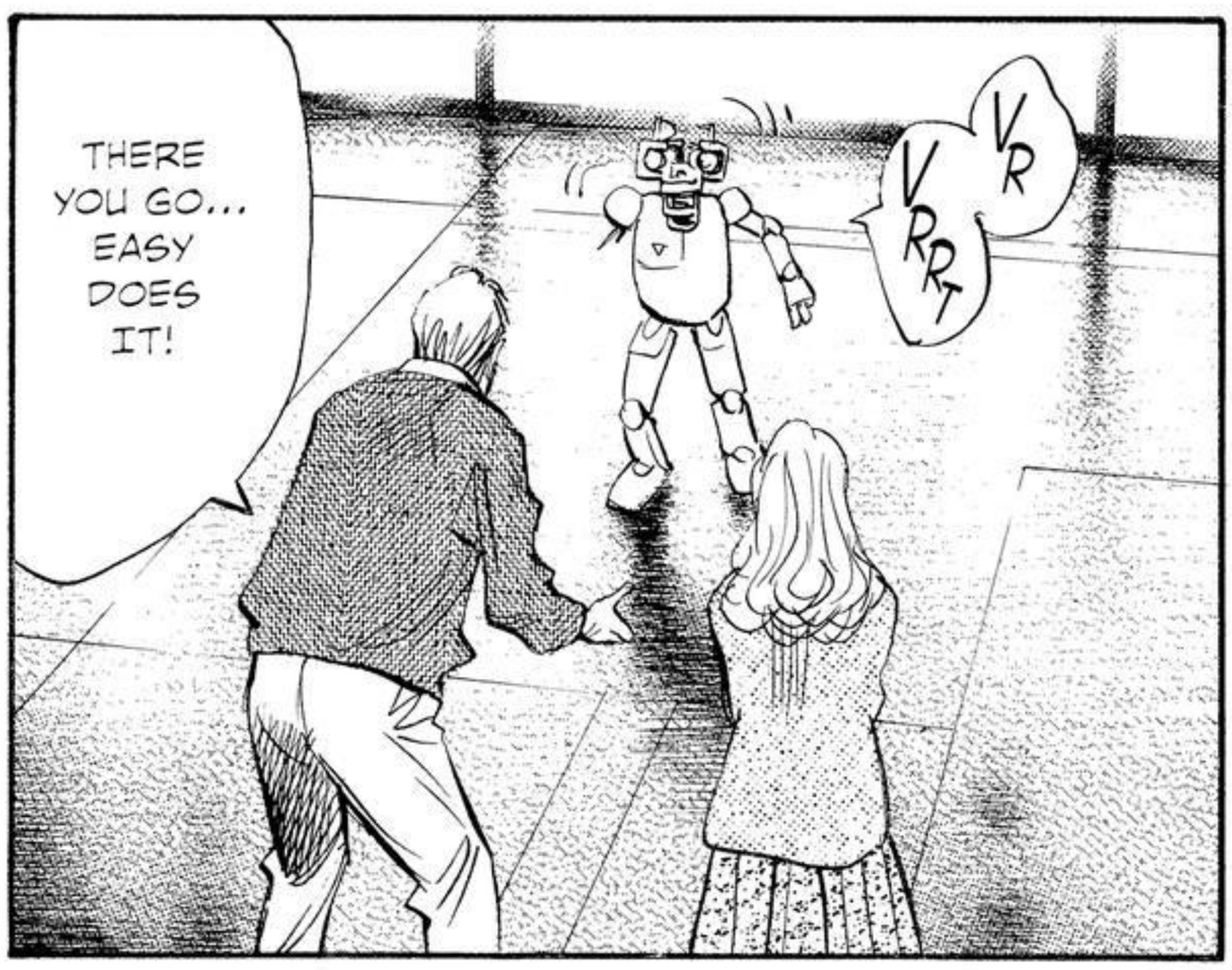
OH, TOBIO...
YOU'RE WALKING!!

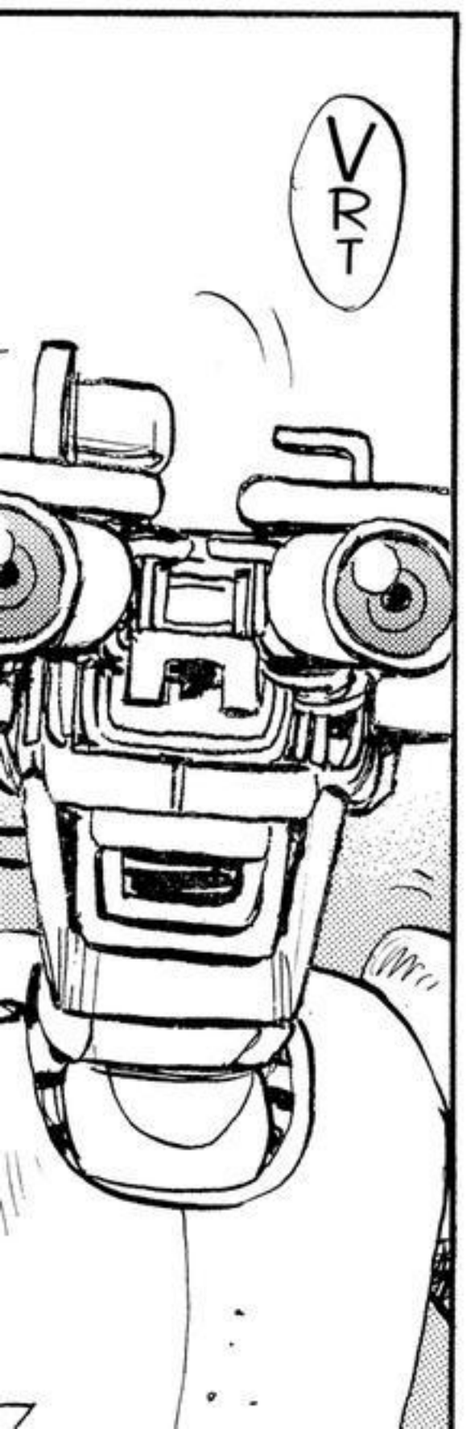
TOBIO, YOU'RE STANDING!

YES, I SEE...
LOOK, DEAR... HE'S WALKING.

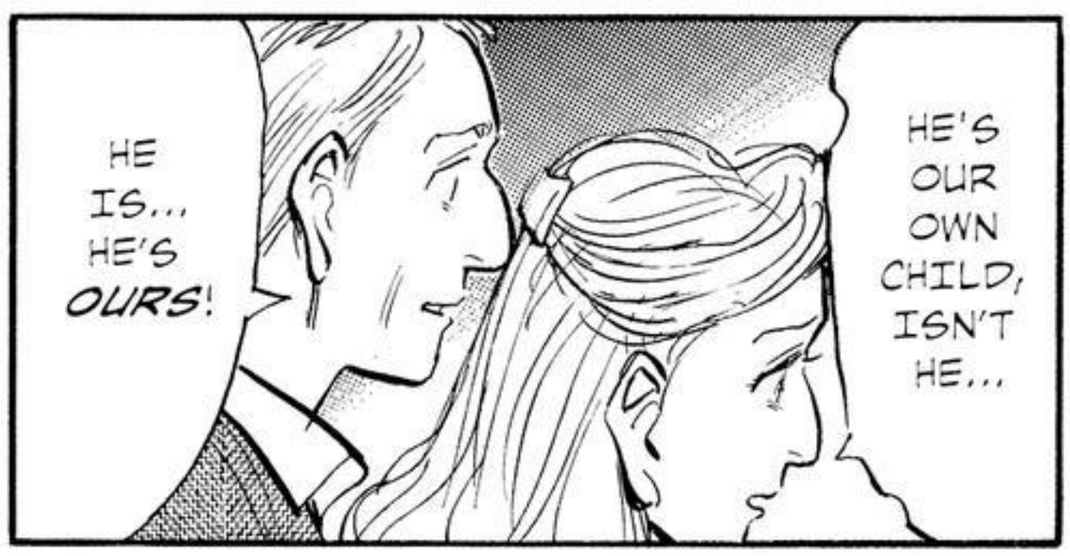
HE'S WALKING ...

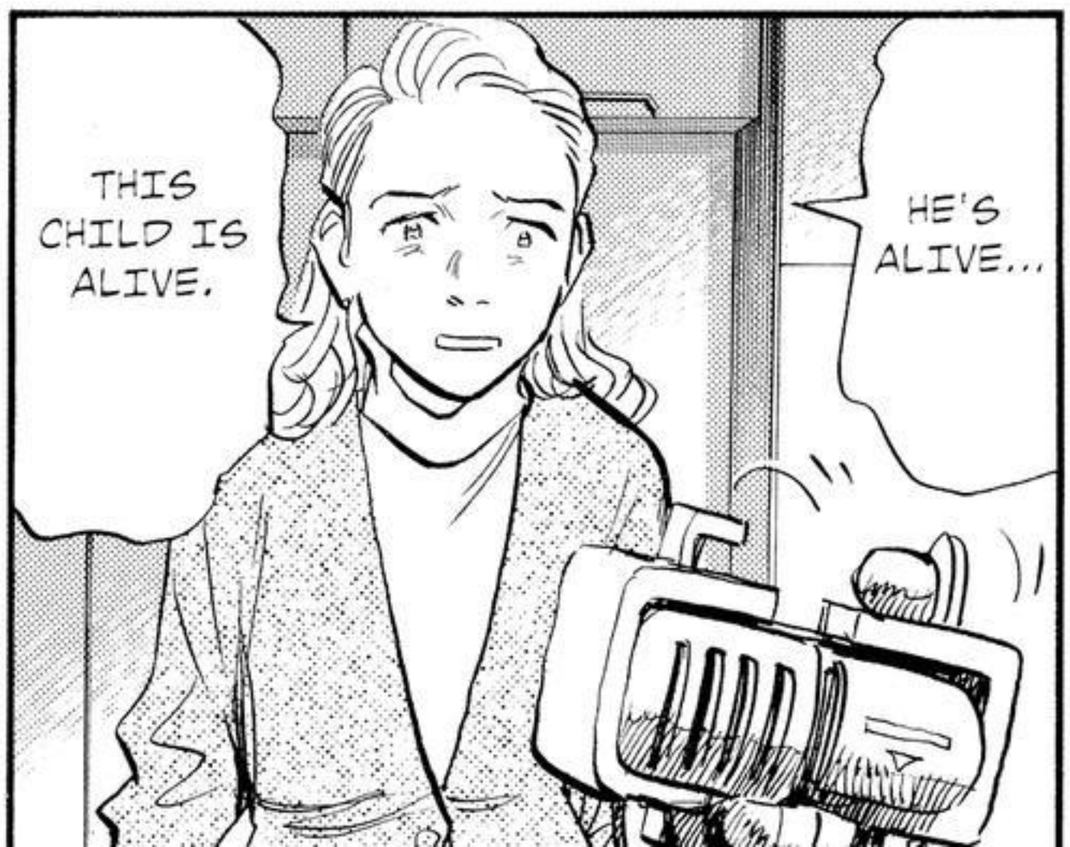

VRT
VRT


THERE YOU GO... EASY DOES IT!
VR
VRRT


VRT

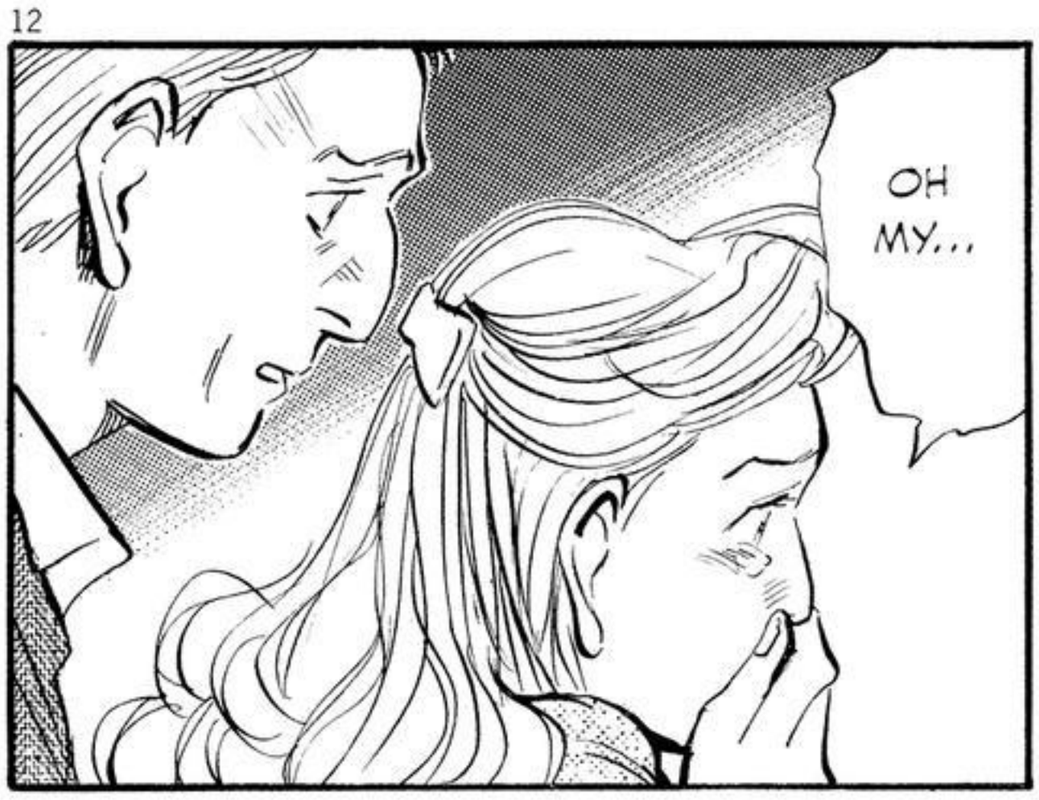
I FINALLY KNOW WHAT PEOPLE MEAN WHEN THEY TALK ABOUT BEING ALIVE.

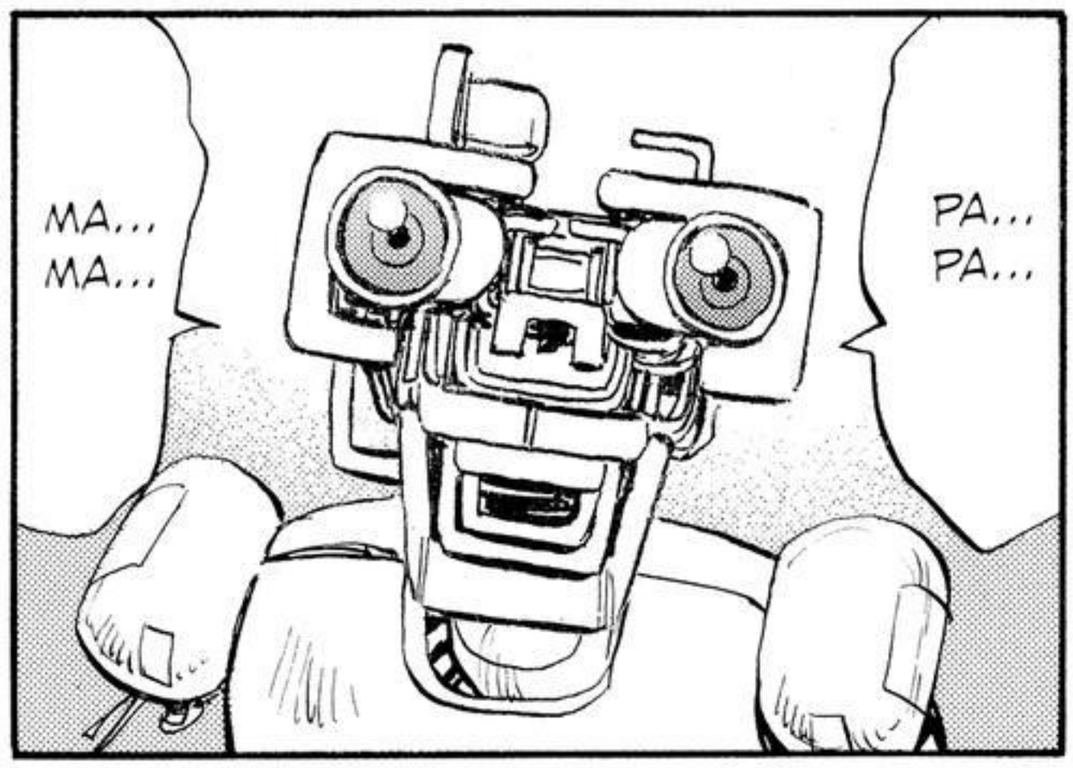

HE IS... HE'S *OURS*!
HE'S OUR OWN CHILD, ISN'T HE...

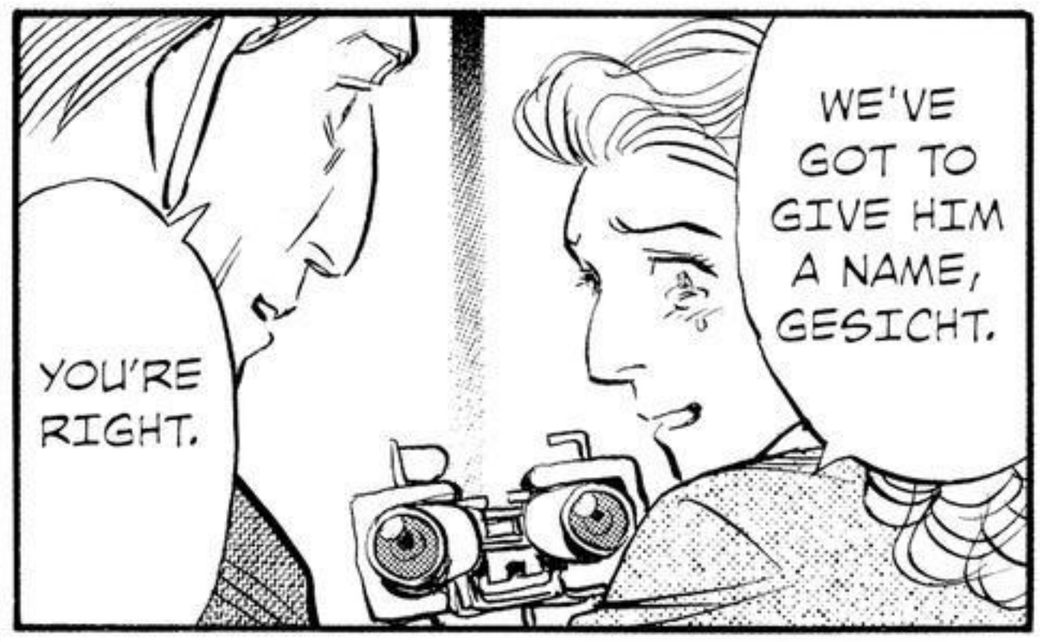

THIS CHILD IS ALIVE.
HE'S ALIVE...

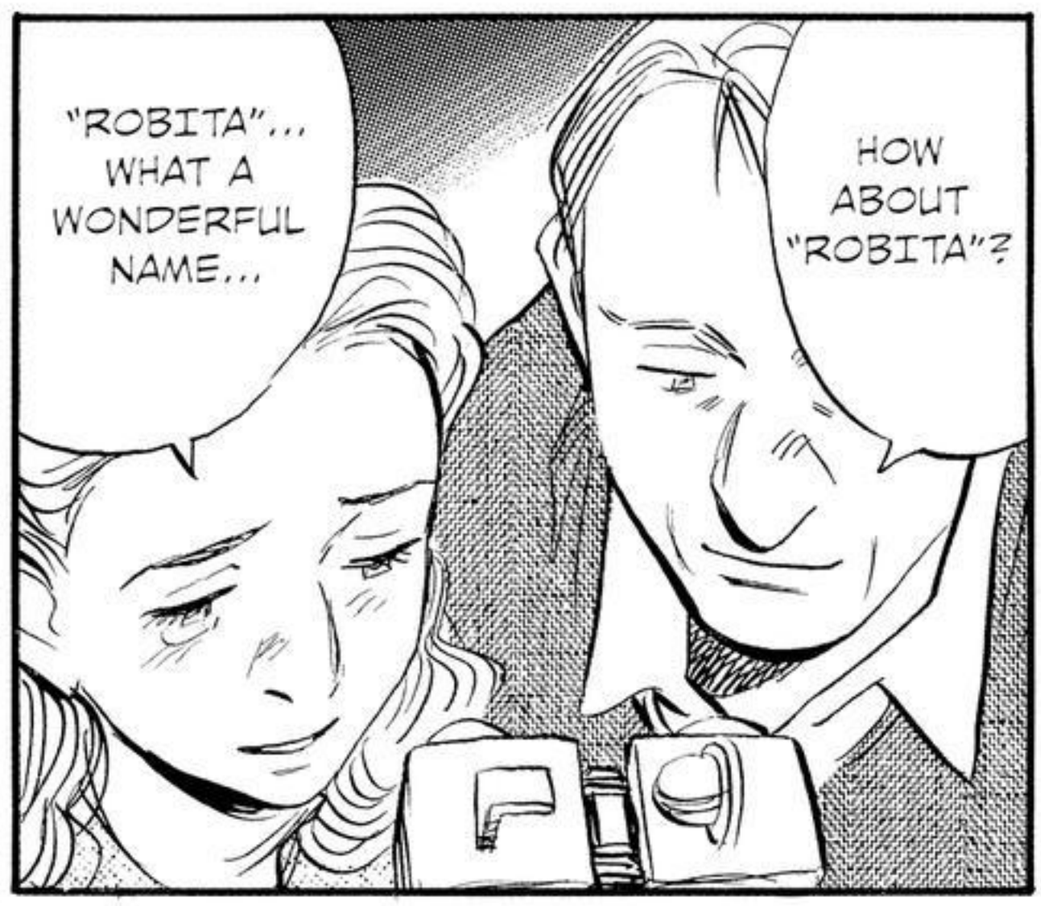
THIS IS WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT.

12

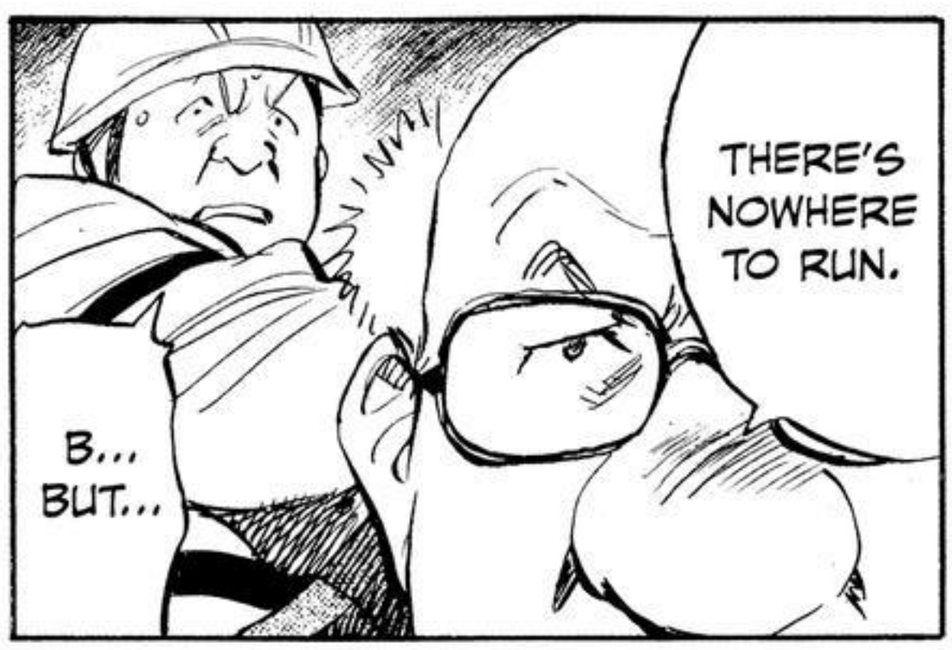








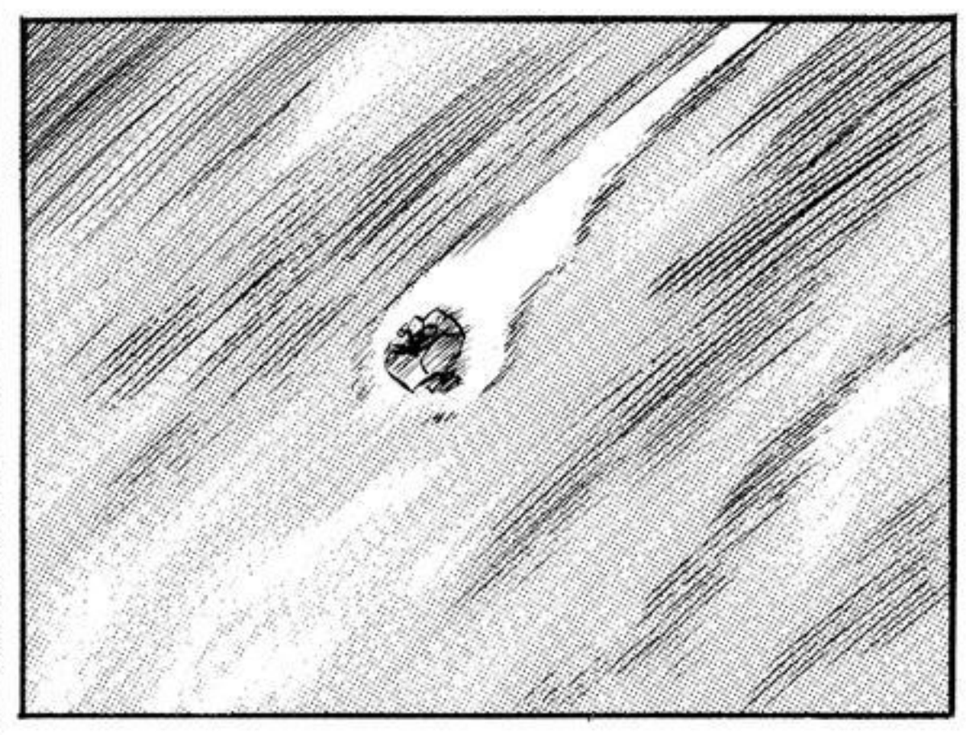
ATOM!!
RUMBLE
WE'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE, PROFESSOR!
!!
IT'S GETTING TOO DANGEROUS, SIR. WE'VE GOT TO LEAVE!!
DOOOM

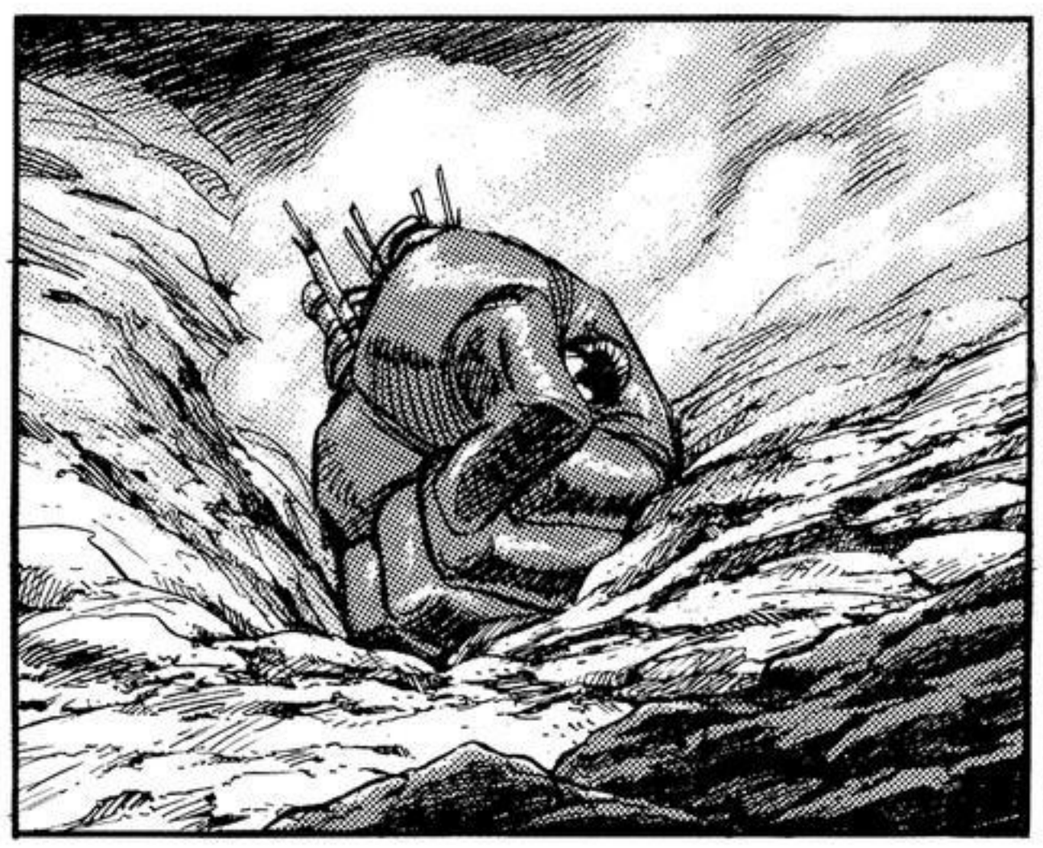


THE WORLD ...

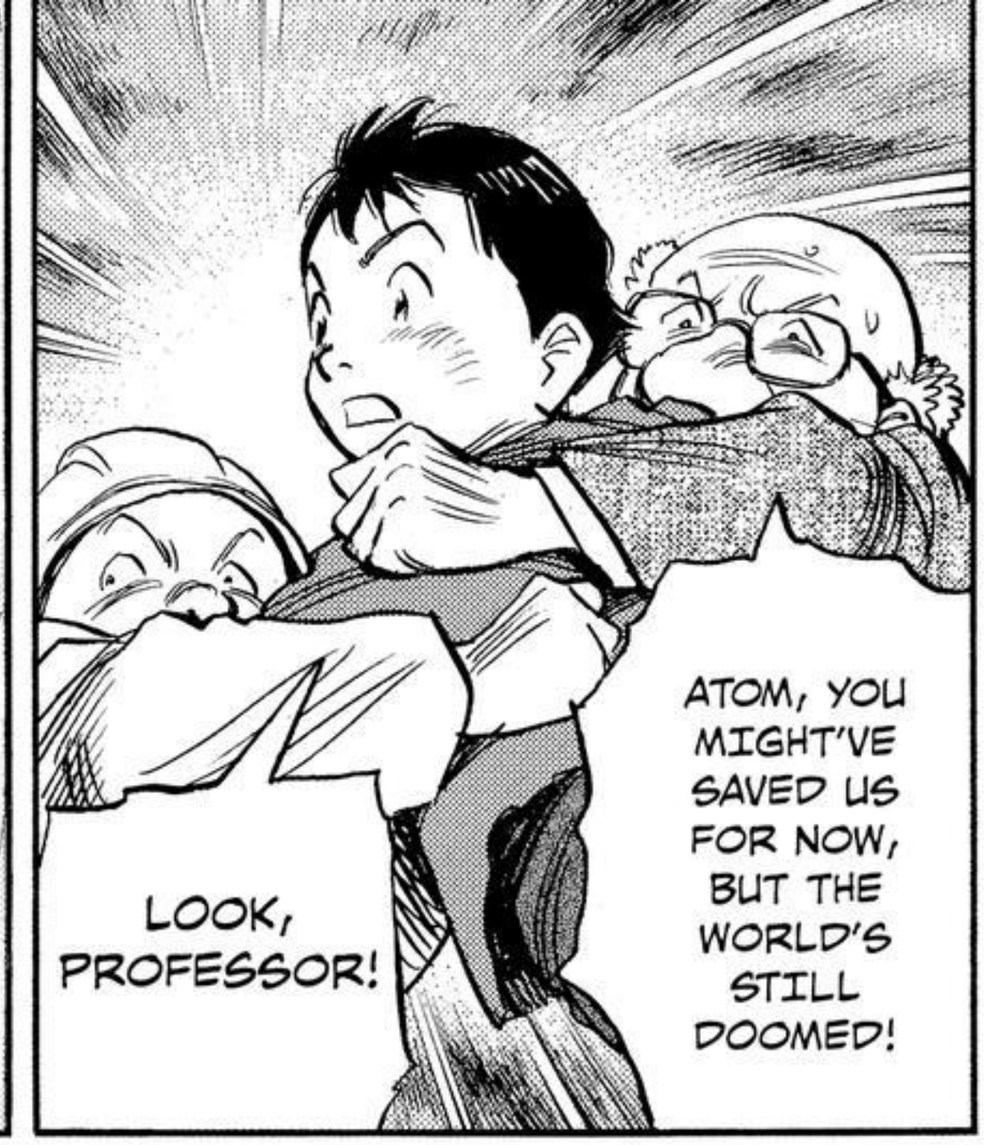
...IS COMING TO AN END!!

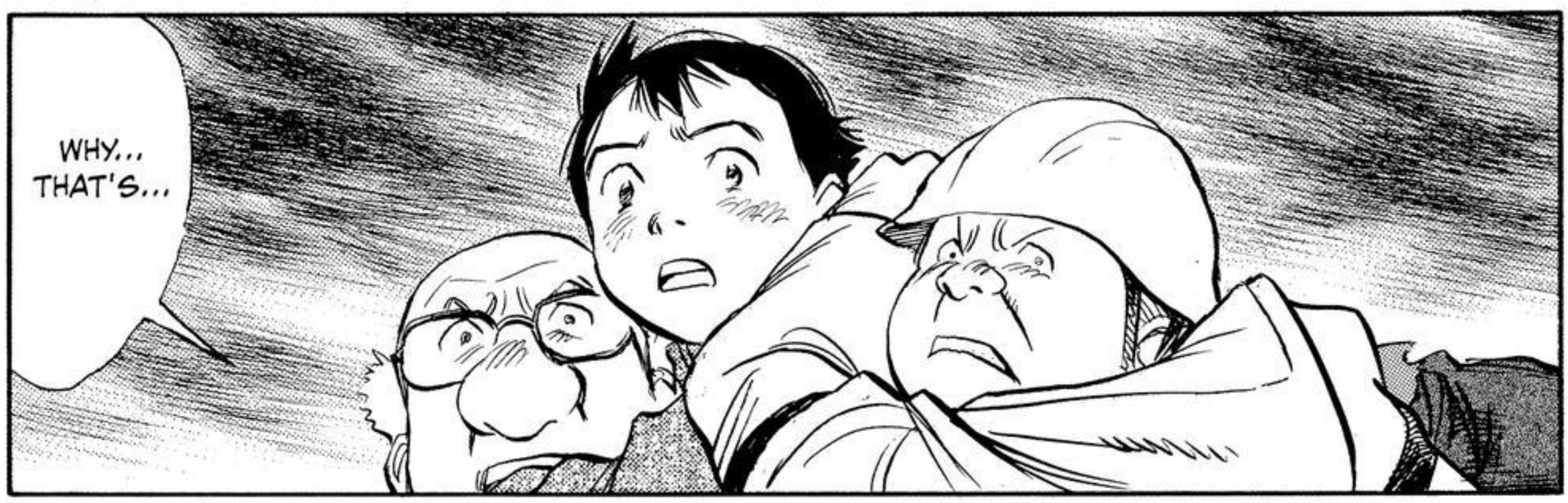
BOOM



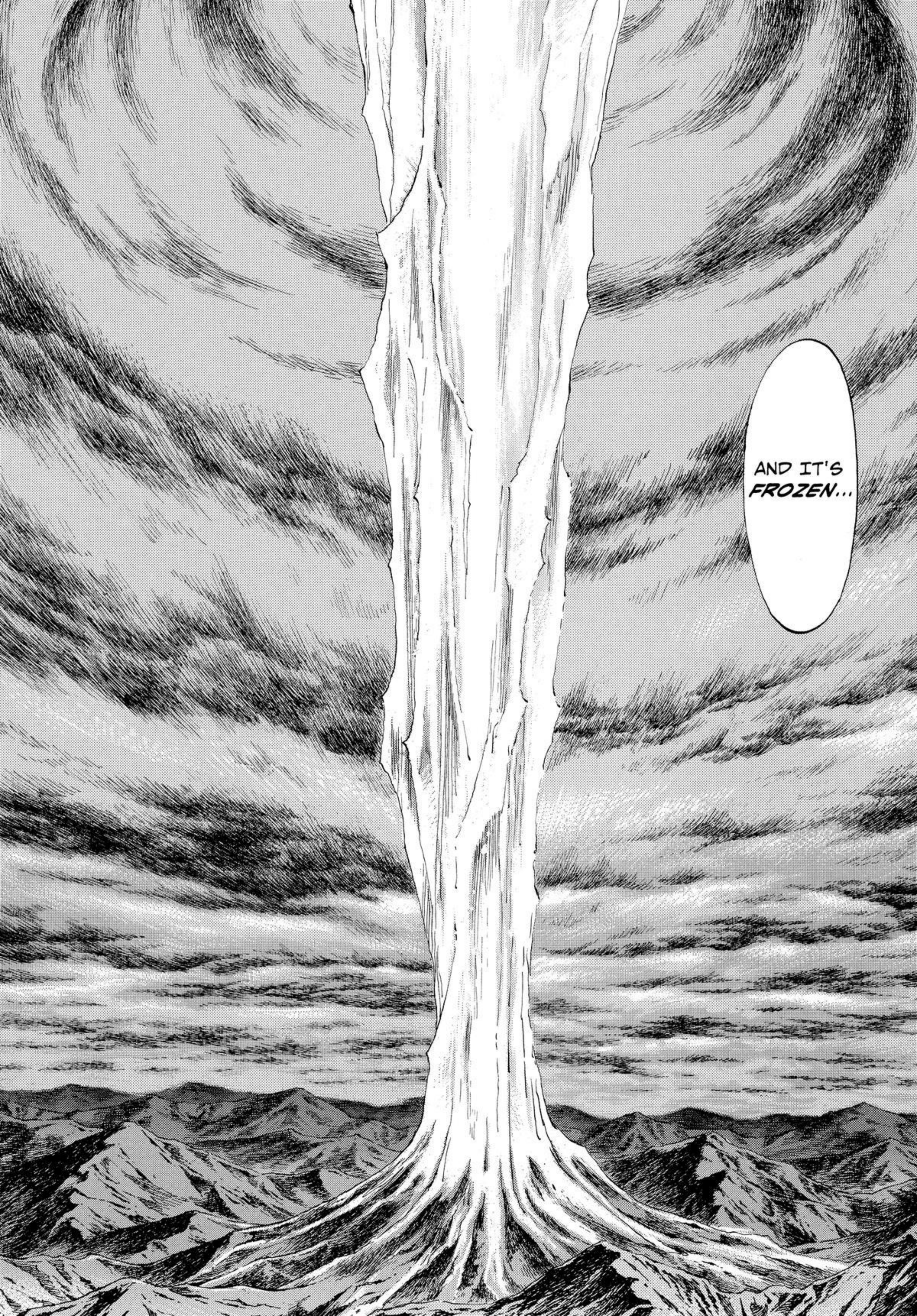


WHOA...
WAHH!!
ROARRR


LOOK, PROFESSOR!
ATOM, YOU MIGHT'VE SAVED US FOR NOW, BUT THE WORLD'S STILL DOOMED!


WHY... THAT'S...

THE MAGMA FROM THE VOLCANO...

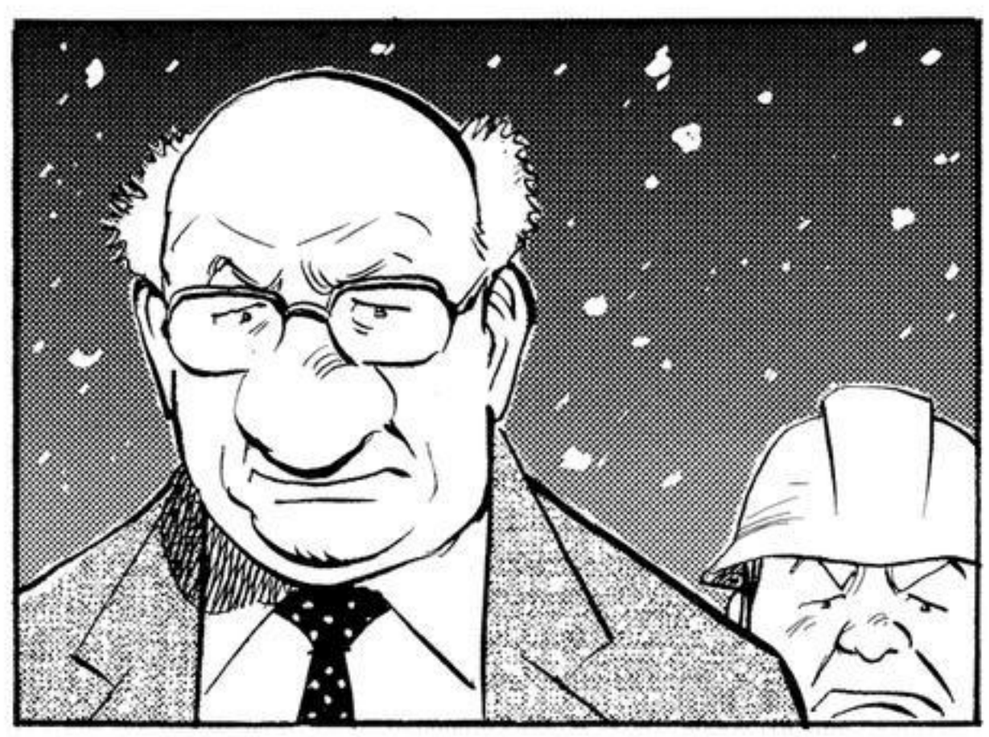

AND IT'S
FROZEN...

WHAT...?

IT'S PLUTO!

SAHAD SAVED THE WORLD!!

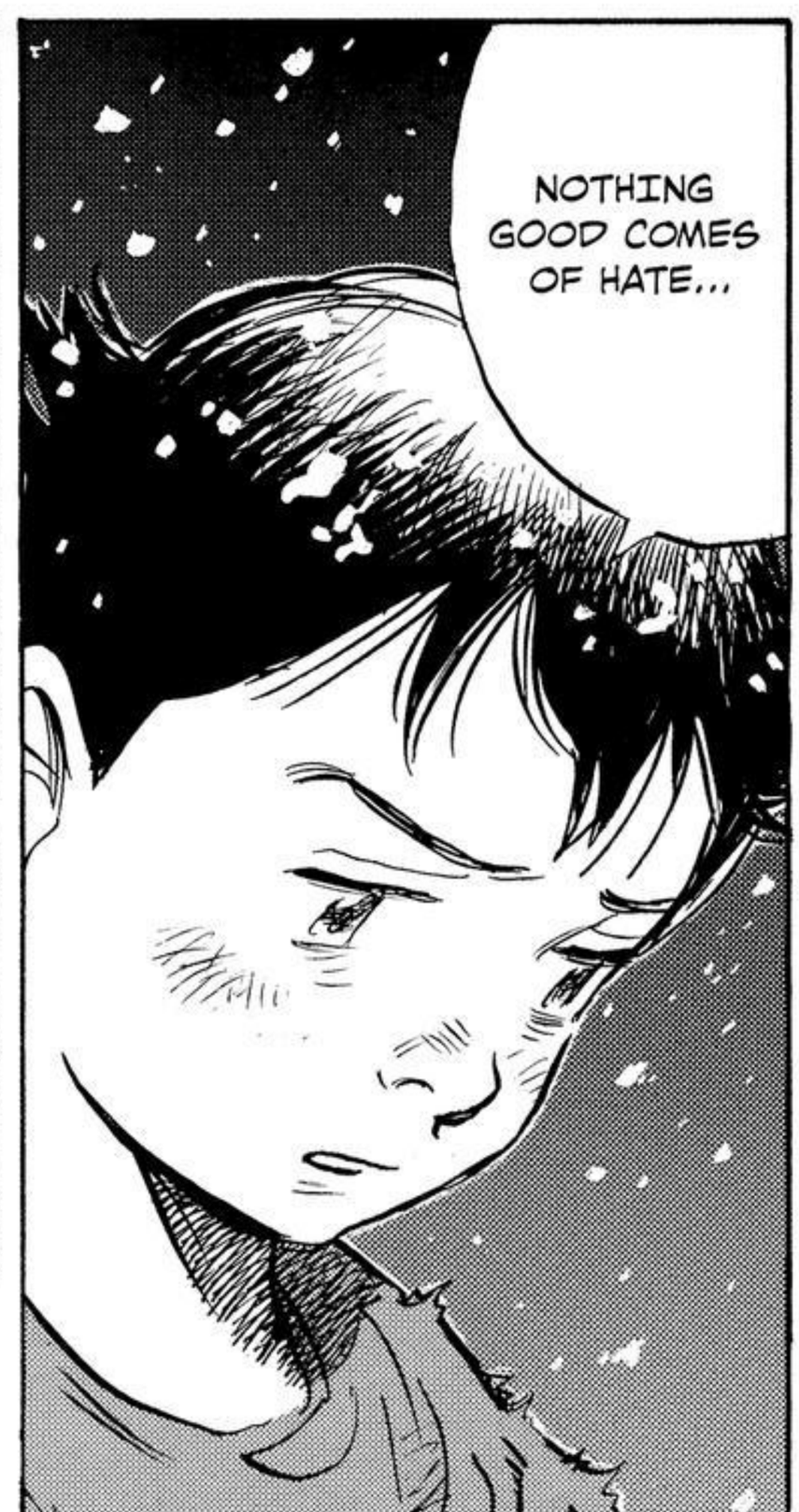
SAHAD...



WHAT WAS ALL THAT FIGHTING FOR...

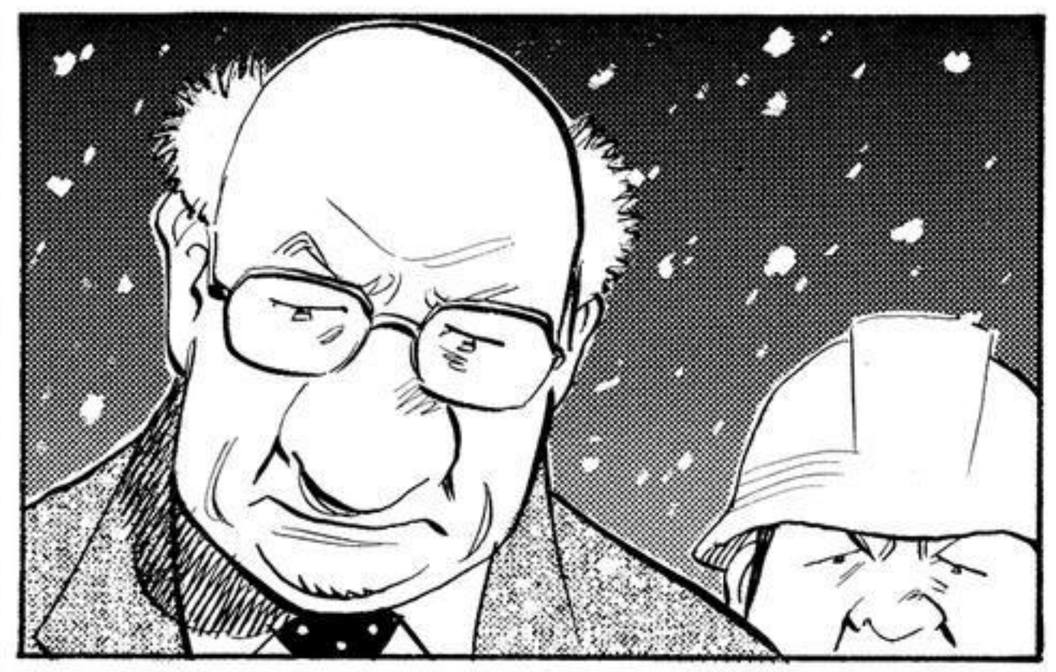
AND THAT'S WHAT SAHAD SAID AT THE END TOO...
THAT'S WHAT INSPECTOR GESICHT SAID.

AND...


NOTHING GOOD COMES OF HATE...

...WAS TO CREATE FIELDS OF FLOWERS.

HE SAID THAT HIS REAL WORK...



AND PLUTO... I KNOW THEY ALL PRAYED FOR THE SAME THING...

I KNOW THEY ALL PRAYED...
...FOR THAT DAY TO COME SOMEDAY.

TAKASHI NAGASAKI

•

MACOTO TEZKA

•

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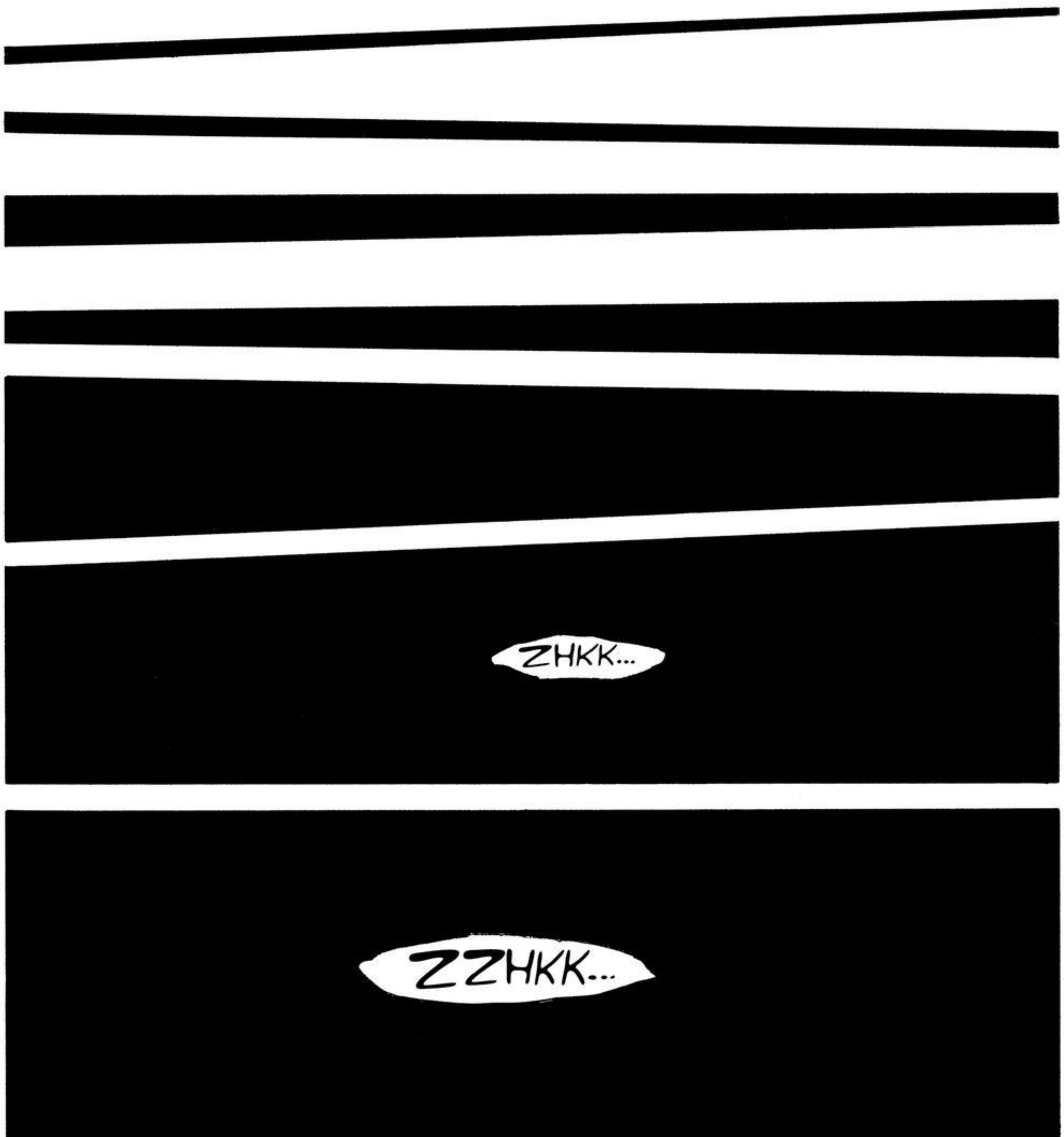
NAOKI URASAWA
×
OSAMU TEZUKA

A NEW VISION BASED ON ASTRO BOY – *'THE GREATEST ROBOT ON EARTH'*
BY NAOKI URASAWA AND OSAMU TEZUKA

SEPTEMBER 2003 – APRIL 2009
BIG COMIC ORIGINAL


ZHKK...
ZZHKK...

ZZHKK...

ALL PERSONNEL TO YOUR POSTS!!

TROMP TROMP TROMP

EMERGENCY ALERT!! EMERGENCY ALERT!!

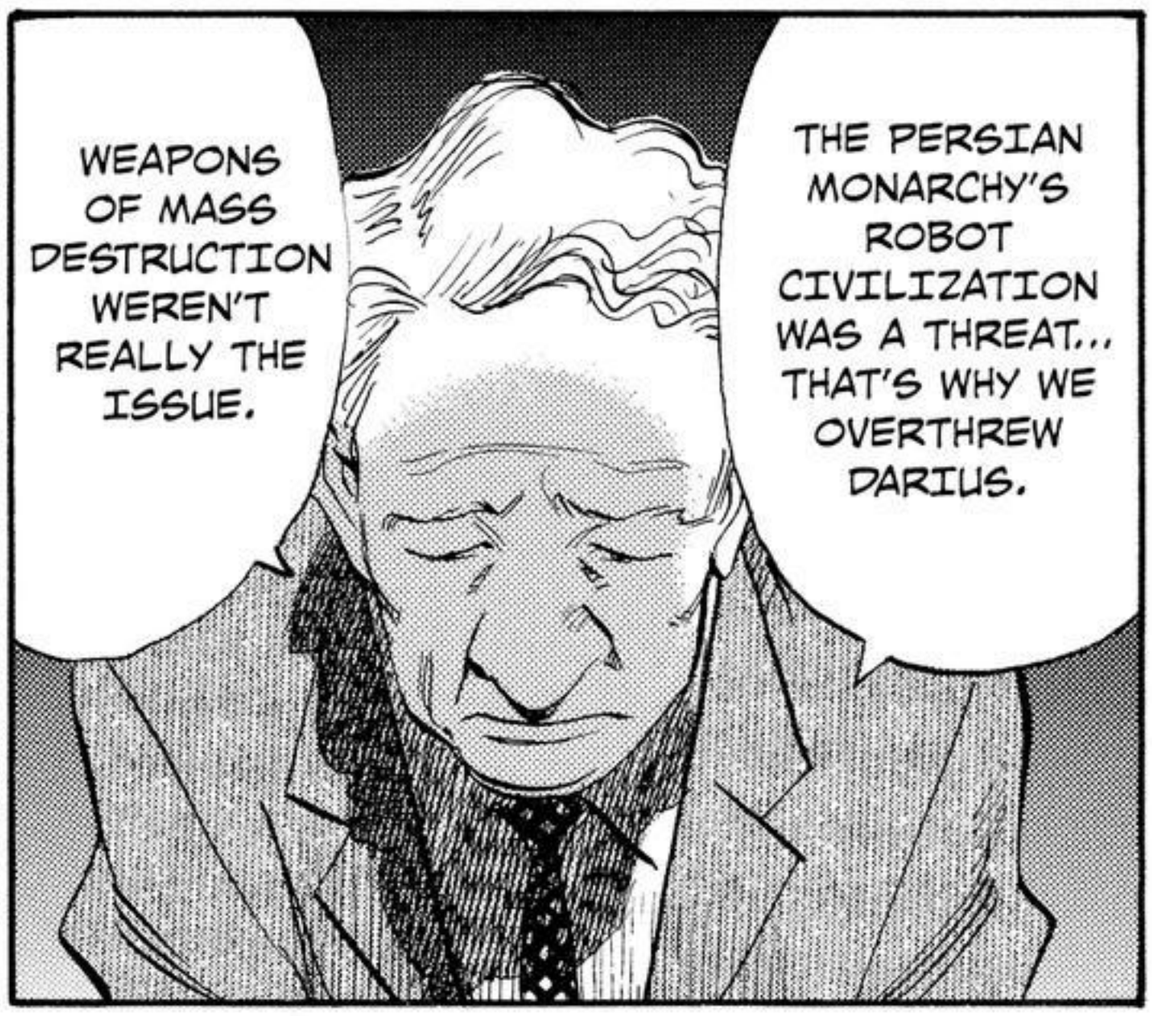
VRRT VRRT

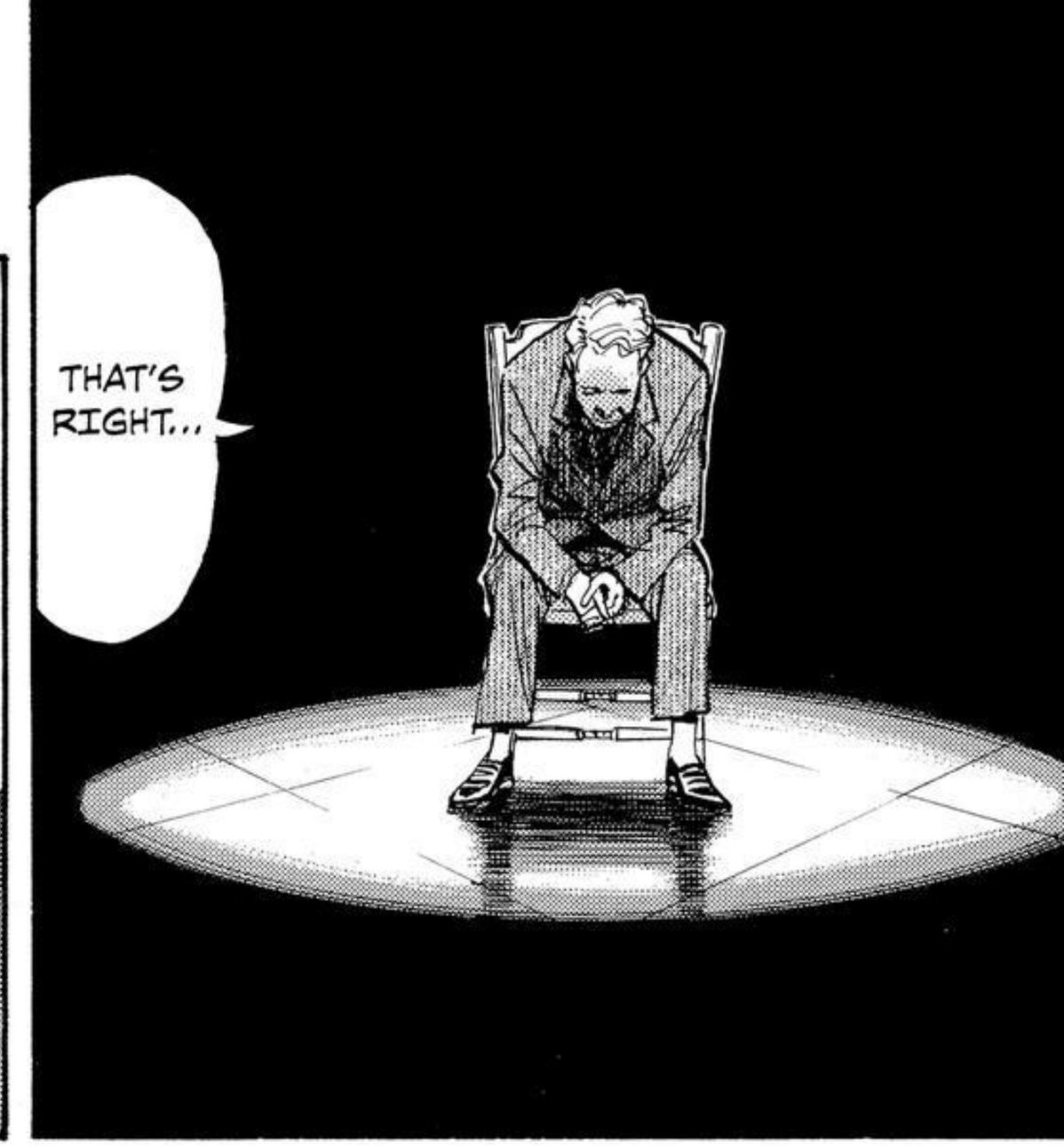
ZZHKK...

...ESCAPED!!

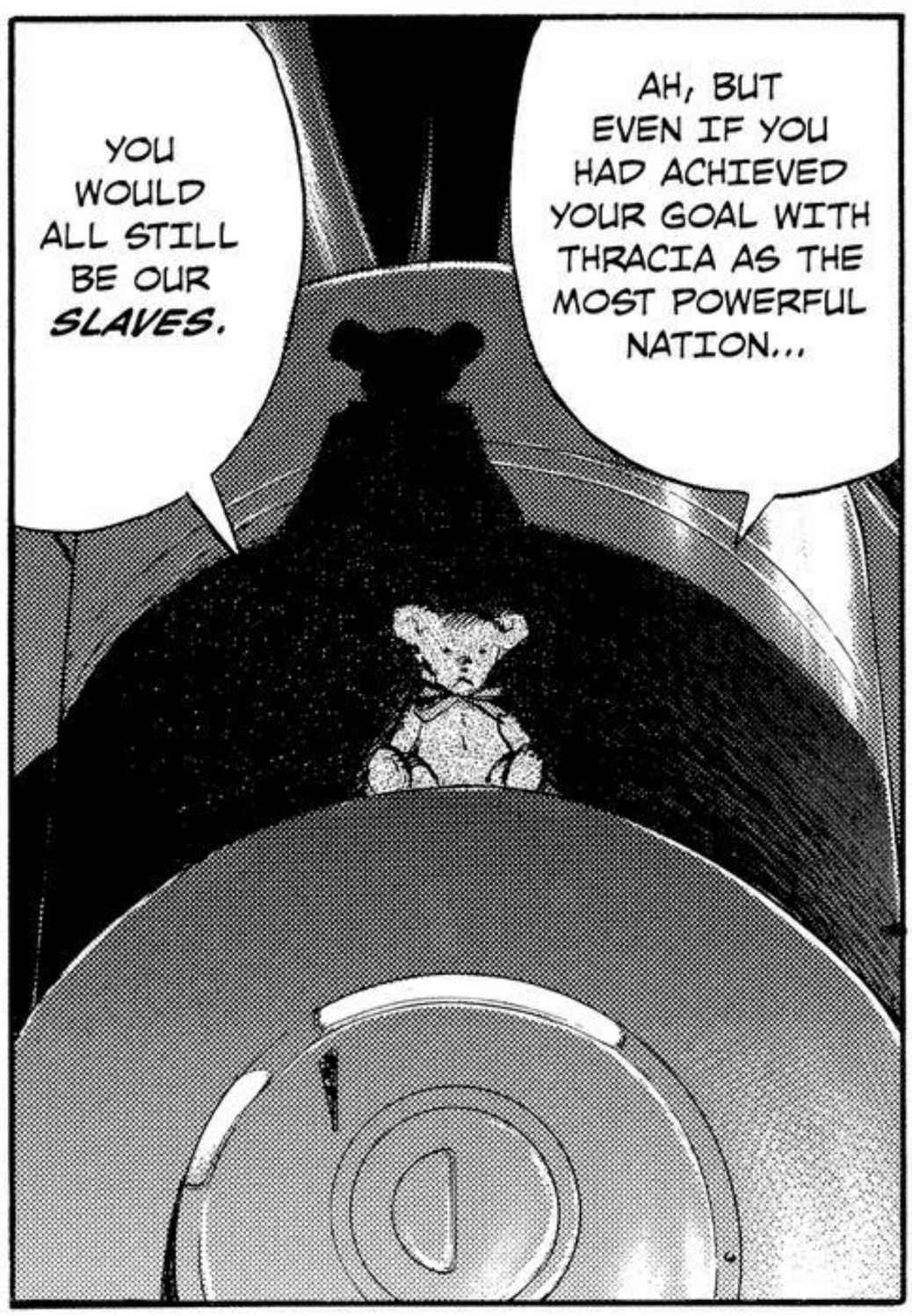
FWP

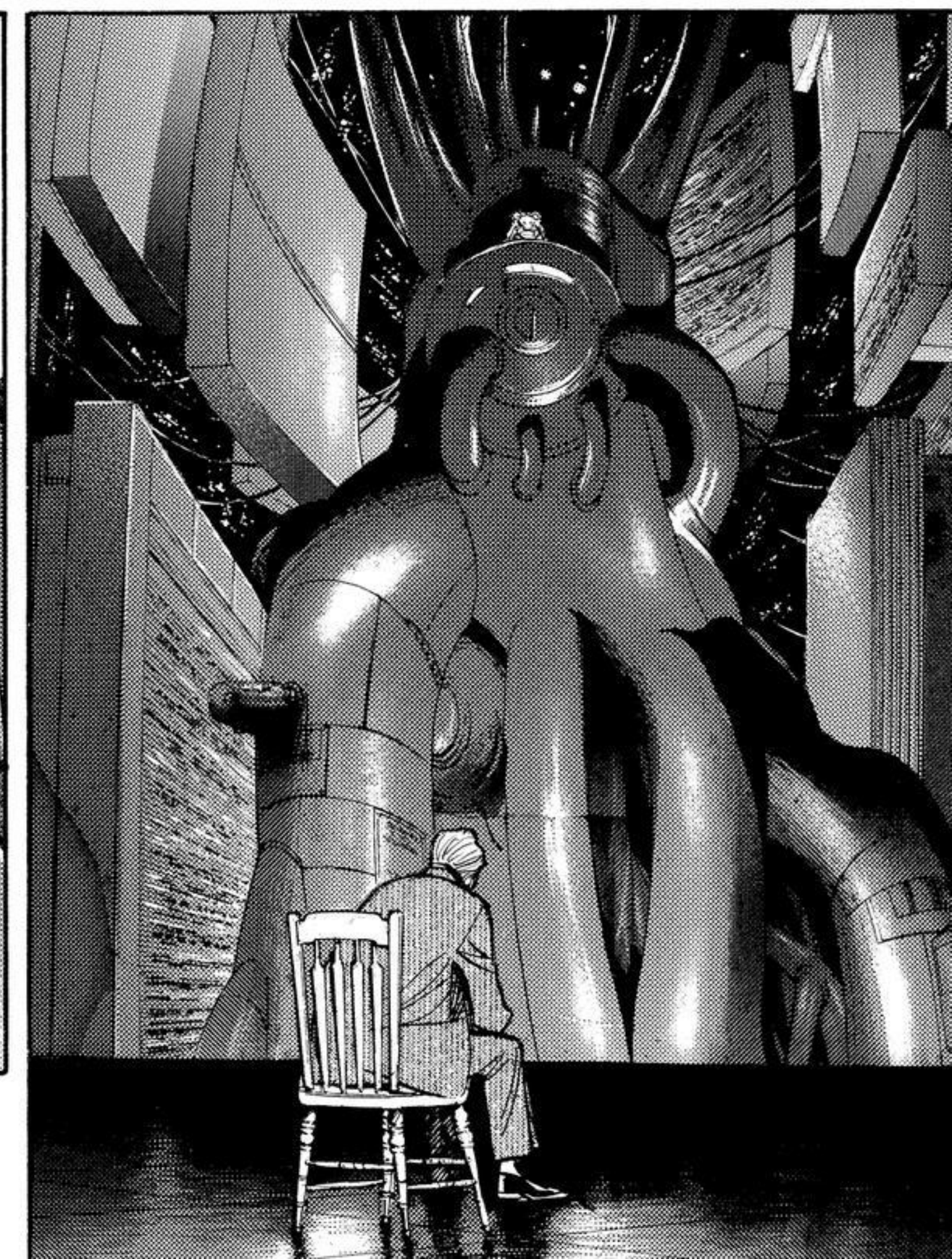
BRAU 1589 HAS...

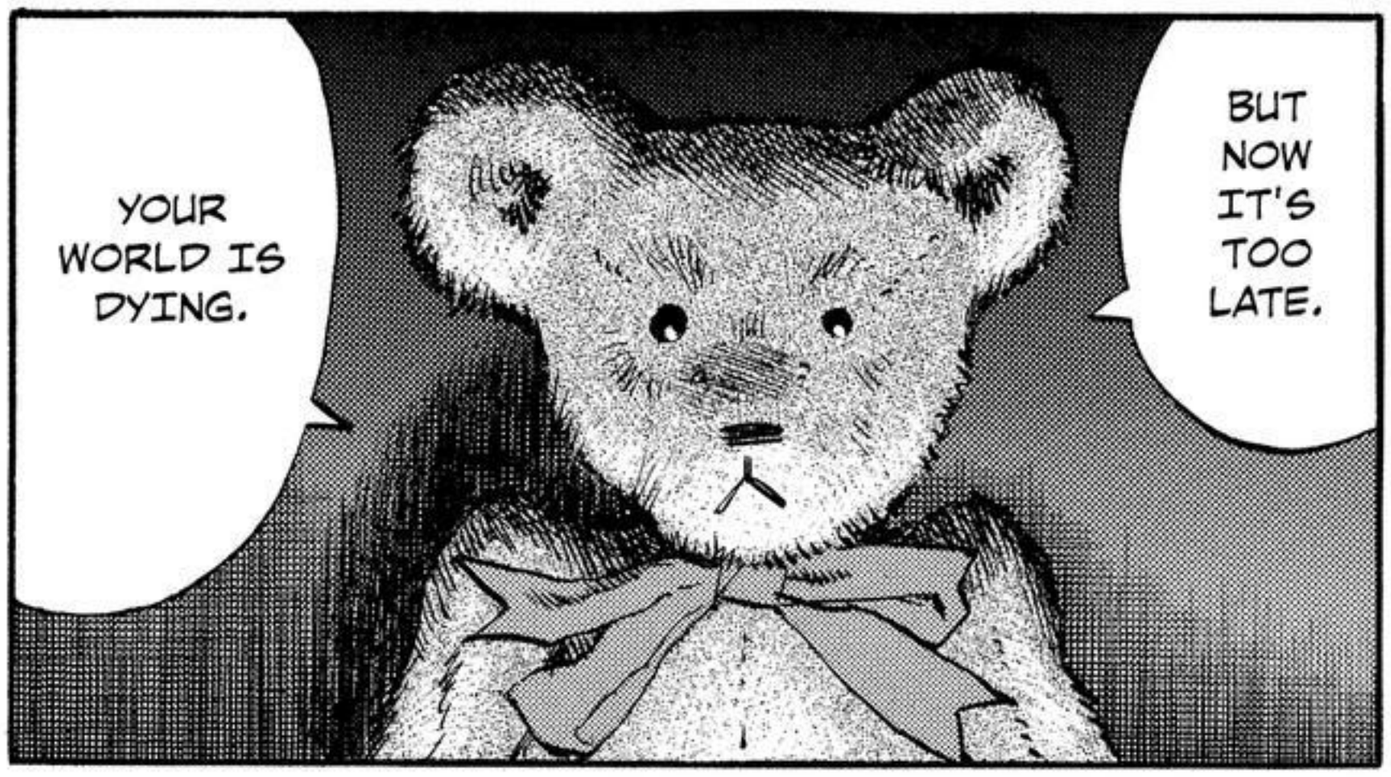

WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION WEREN'T REALLY THE ISSUE.
THE PERSIAN MONARCHY'S ROBOT CIVILIZATION WAS A THREAT... THAT'S WHY WE OVERTHREW DARIUS.


THAT'S RIGHT...

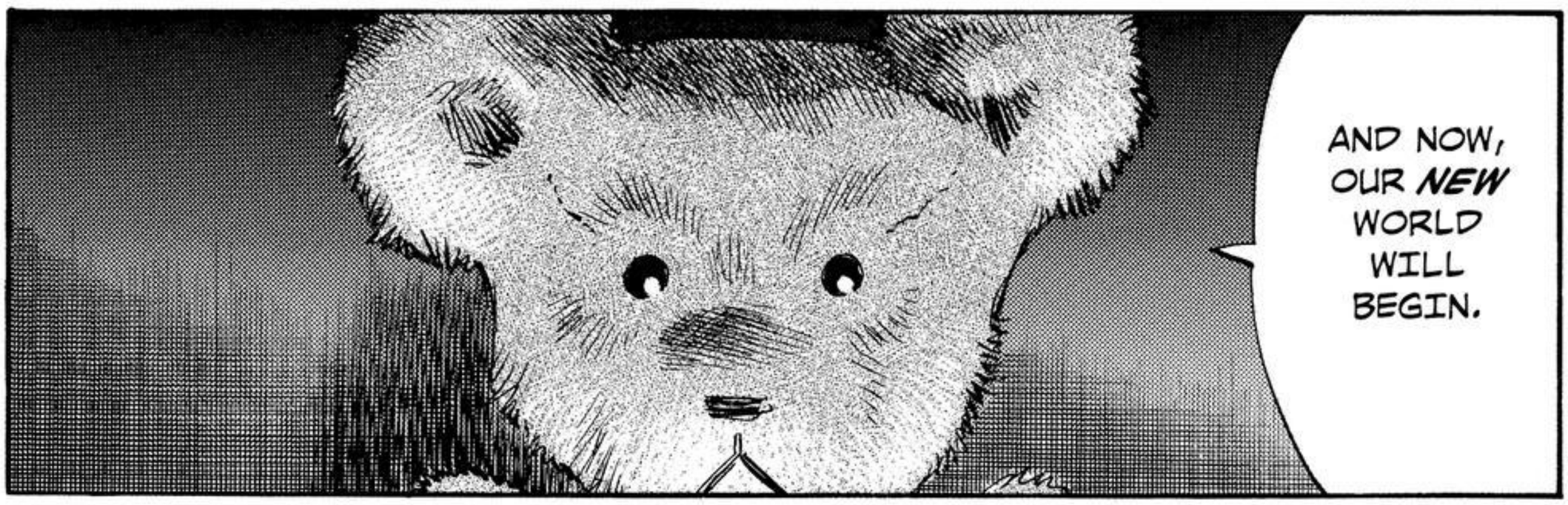
I JUST WANTED TO MAKE THE UNITED STATES OF THRACIA THE MOST POWERFUL NATION IN THE WORLD.

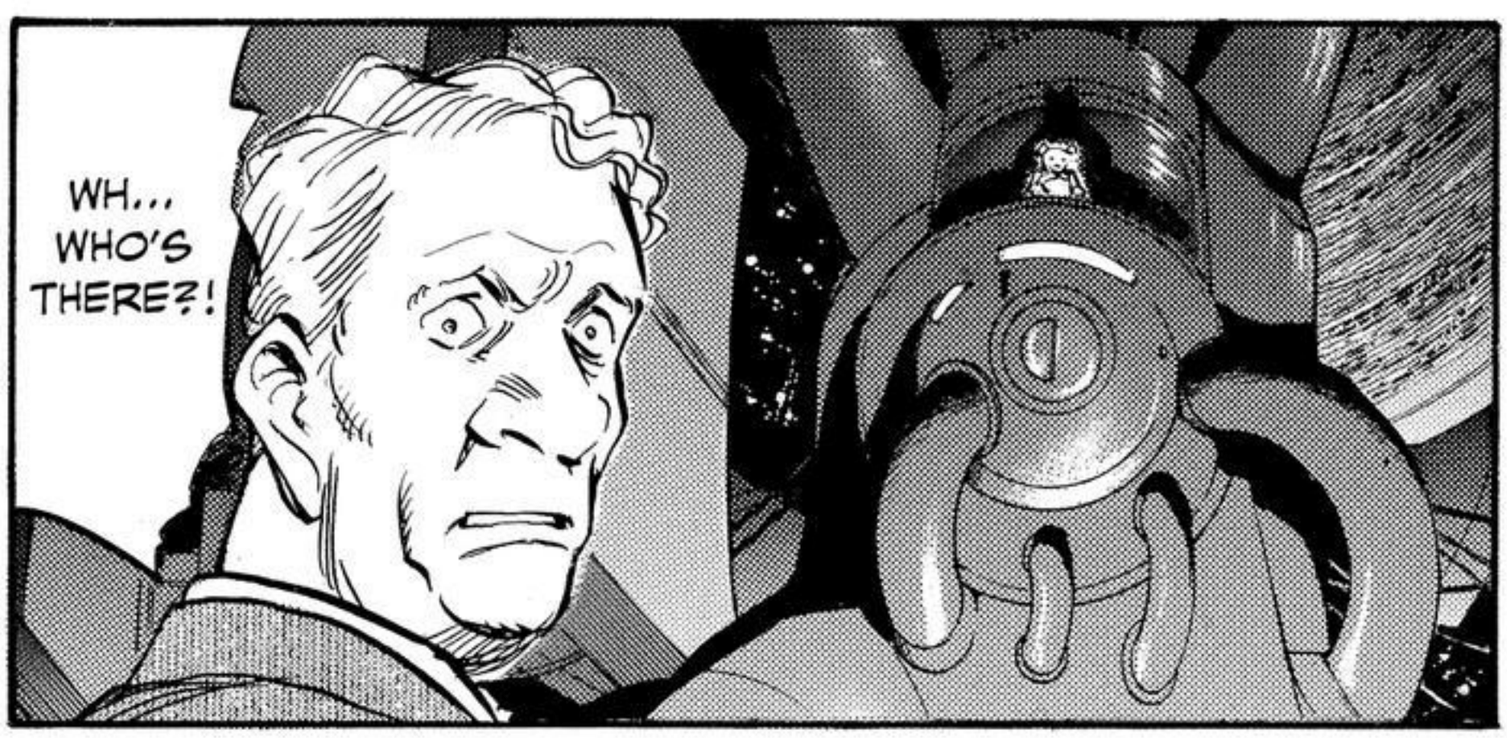

YOU WOULD ALL STILL BE OUR *SLAVES.*
AH, BUT EVEN IF YOU HAD ACHIEVED YOUR GOAL WITH THRACIA AS THE MOST POWERFUL NATION...

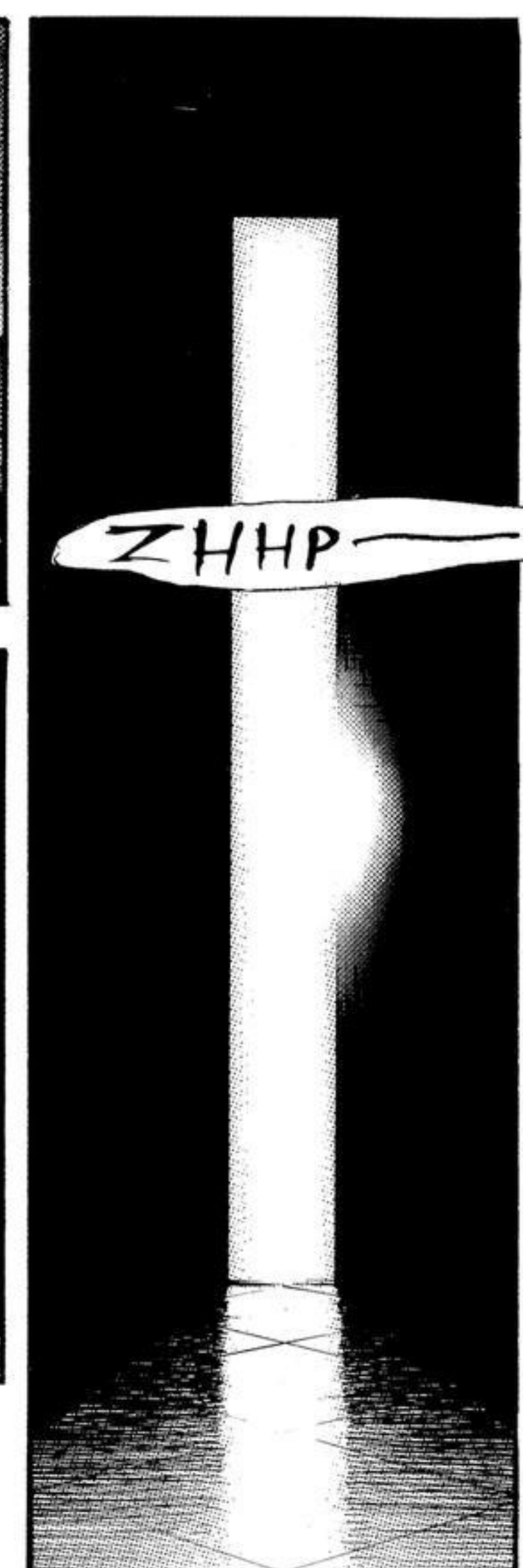


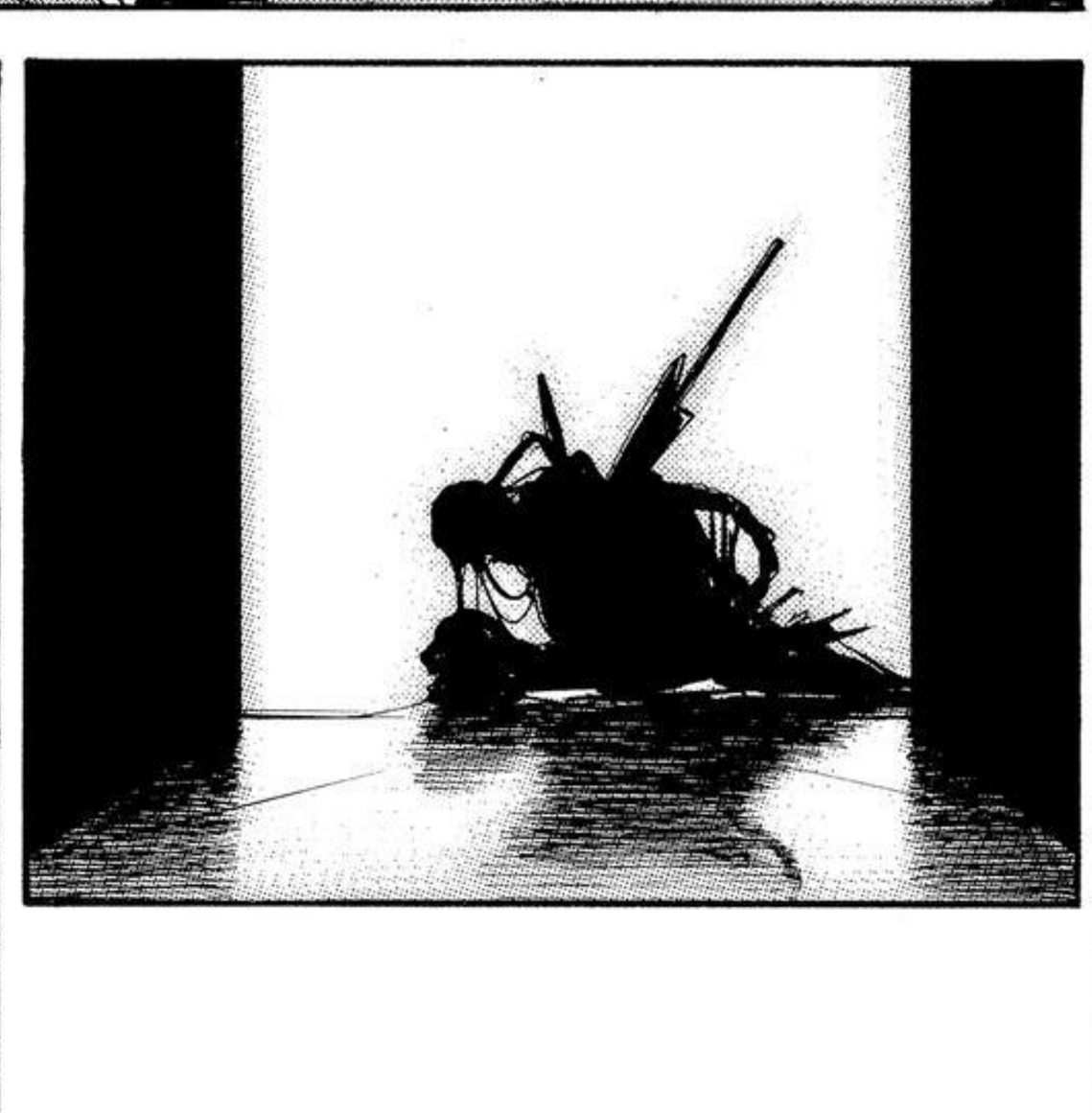

YOUR WORLD IS DYING.
BUT NOW IT'S TOO LATE.

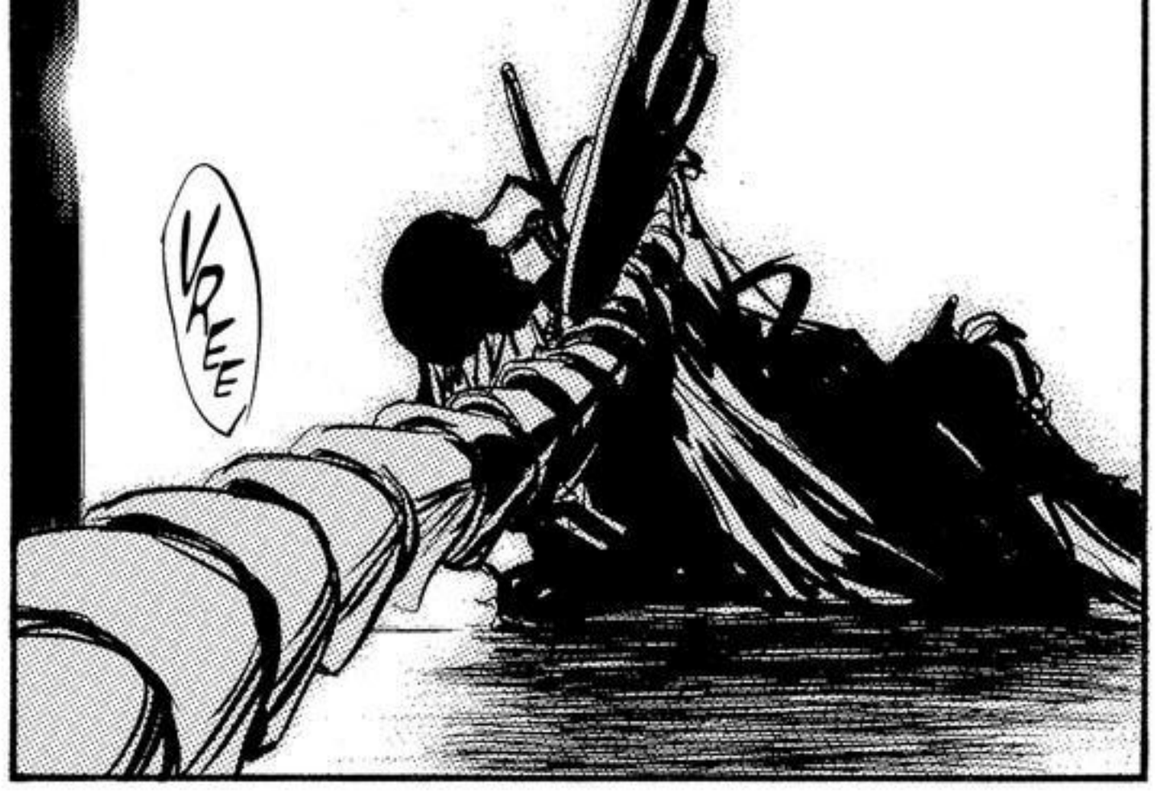
...


AND NOW, OUR *NEW* WORLD WILL BEGIN.


WH... WHO'S THERE?!

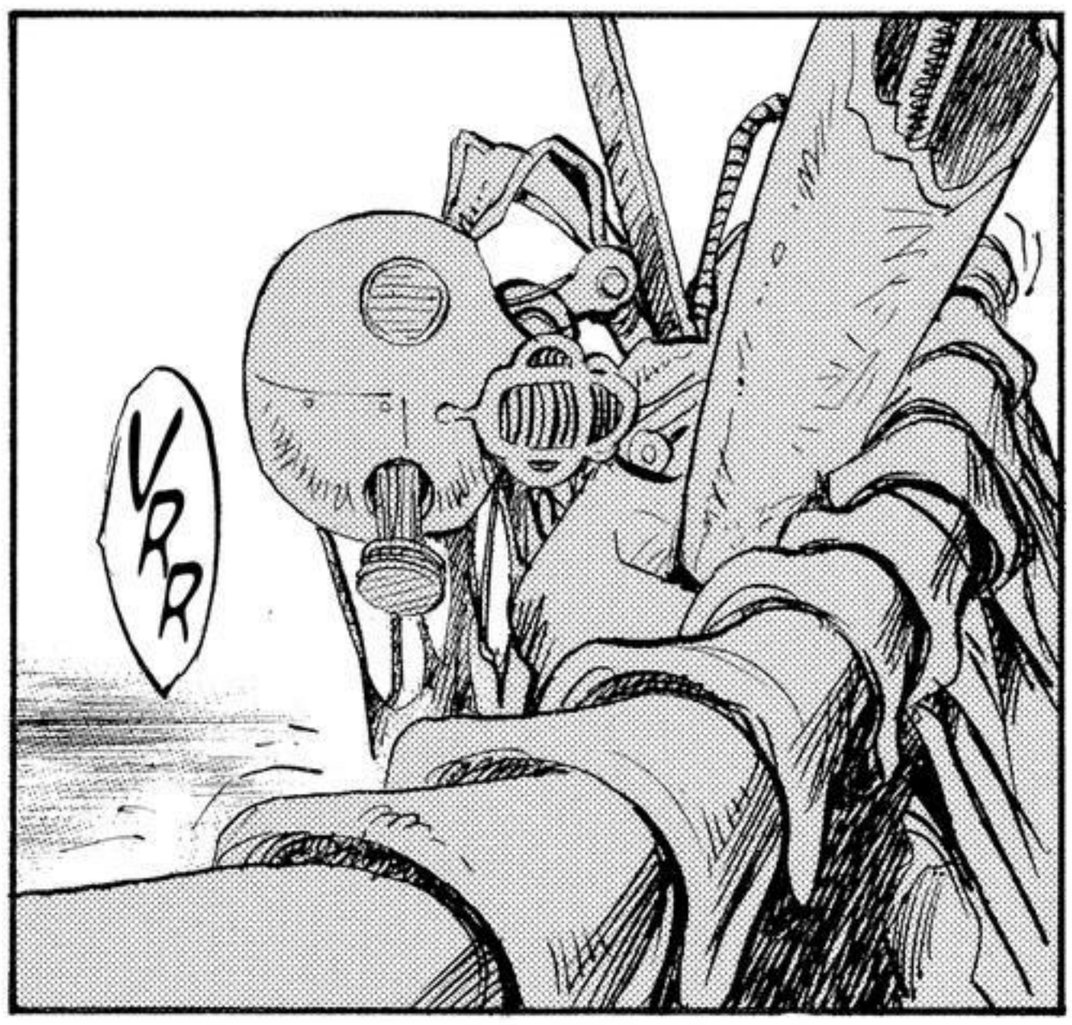

ZHHP

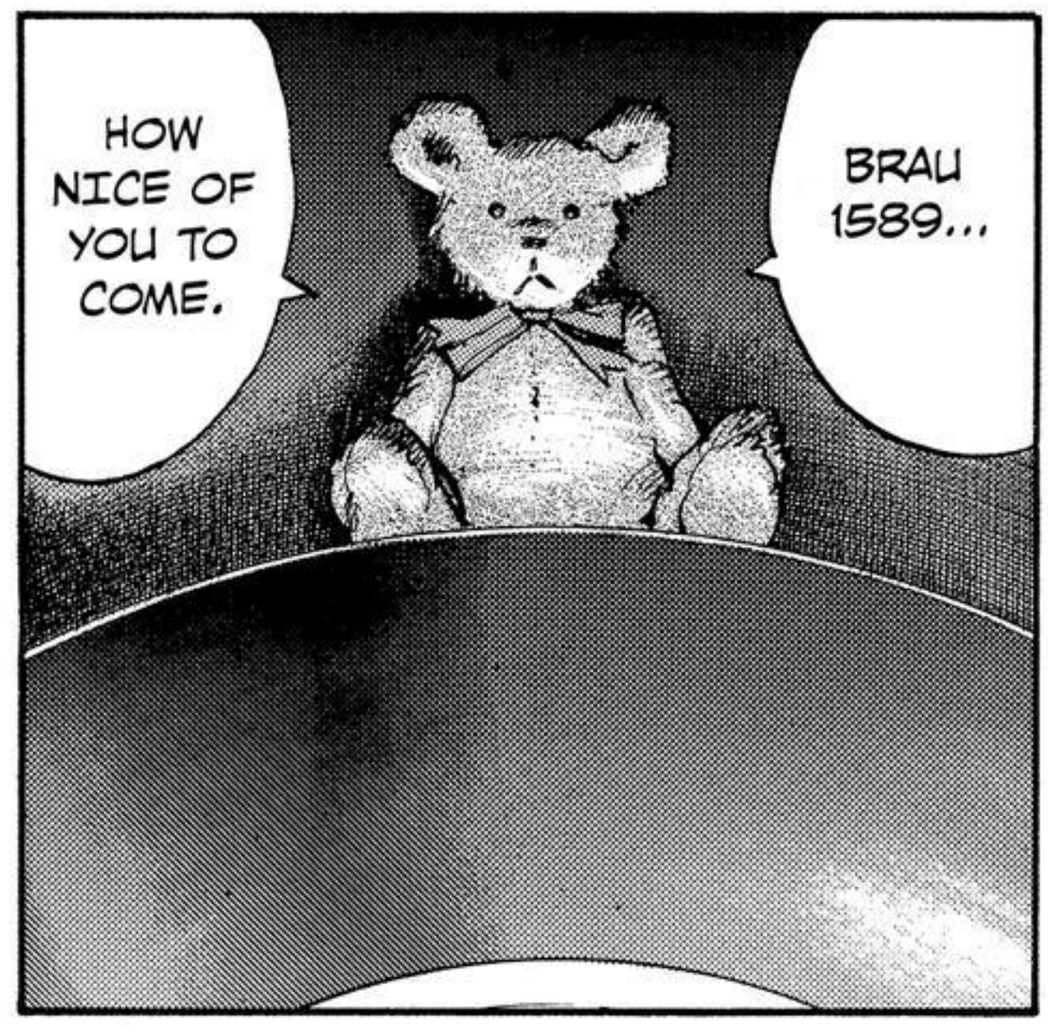



VREE

CHAK

Y-
YOU'RE
...
YOU...


VRR


HOW
NICE OF
YOU TO
COME.
BRAU
1589...

SO
WARM...
...

VREE

...
HEART
...

JUST LIKE ATOM'S ...

WHAT A DISAP-POINTMENT.

OH, MY... YOU'RE GOING TO SPARE HIM?

KOFF KOFF

VREE

VRRR

I WAS SO SURE THAT YOU AND I SHARED THE SAME DIVINE SPACE...

SHOOM
PLUTO
URASAWA×TEZUKA
END

POSTSCRIPT

Takashi Nagasaki, Manga Writer and Editor

This is a story about when I lived in Hiroshima a very long time ago. I was an elementary school student and completely enthralled by the *Astro Boy* series then running in the manga magazine *Shonen* and also by the puppet drama *Hyokkori Hyotanjima* (Unexpected Gourd Island) on television. I will come back to *Hyotanjima* later, but for now let me say that both of my parents were rather conservative, and both of them disapproved of my reading manga, so they rarely bought me any manga magazines.

In order to read manga I tried to manage my meager allowance as best as I could, but I still couldn't come up with enough money to buy the expensive *Shonen* monthly, not to mention popular manga weeklies like *Sunday*, *Magazine*, or *King*. So how would I be able to keep up with every chapter of Atom? I came up with the idea of befriending a kid whose parents were a little more enlightened about manga purchases.

I chose Matsuda, not just because he had issues of my target *Shonen* at his house, but also because he was a classmate that I got along with. Matsuda was big for his age and he got good grades. I doubt that his family was particularly well off, but I believe he was an only child, so he was a lucky kid who got stuff like remote-controlled, plastic-model robot toys for his birthday. In retrospect, it was pretty calculating of me to make all those visits to Matsuda's house, but the trips were a "necessary evil" (?) in order for me to read all the episodes of my beloved *Astro Boy*.

One might think that *Astro Boy* was the most popular manga in those days, but that wasn't necessarily true. Tatsukawa, the best dodgeball player in our class, never shrank from reminding me that "*Astro Boy*'s old news!" I was shocked, however, when one day I heard the same words come out of Matsuda's mouth. And this came from a boy who read not only *Shonen* from cover to cover but every other manga publication as well. Matsuda's favorite manga were *Tetsujin 28-go* (*Iron Man No. 28* or *Gigantor*) and the ninja story *Iga no Kagemaru* (Kagemaru of Iga)—both works drawn by Osamu Tezuka's rival at the time, Mitsuteru Yokoyama.

Even I knew why Matsuda was critical of Atom. Yokoyama's *Iga no Kagemaru* featured a battle format with merciless ninja deaths. *Tetsujin 28-go* starred a giant robot who could be used to fight both good guys and bad guys depending on who was operating his remote-control device, and he would keep fighting, unfazed even if a part of his body was ripped off. These stories were extraordinarily cruel and tragic, and that's what was alluring about them.

Tezuka's manga style was completely different. In Tezuka's stories, even the most evil villains were shown to have reasons for their twisted ways, so it always became apparent that they really weren't totally evil after all. And even Atom agonized before every battle, usually trying to persuade his adversaries not to fight... It could get irritating.

But I remained a resolute Atom fan. At some point I put some distance between Matsuda and myself, and I had to give up on using him to read *Astro Boy*.

However, several months later I overheard a conversation between Matsuda and Tatsukawa at the back of the classroom:

"The newest Atom episode's pretty good, huh?"

"Yeah, and that Pluto character's really strong. He's cool."

Then, turning to me, Matsuda announced, "Sorry, Nagasaki. We were wrong. I guess Atom really *is* cooler than Tetsujin."

After that, I once again started making visits to the Matsuda household. Interestingly, Matsuda's change of heart had come as a result of his having read "The Greatest Robot in History."*

Looking back on it all now, I realize that Osamu Tezuka was a man who constantly studied the work of his rivals. When Tezuka became aware that stories with battles were selling, he quickly adapted—and as soon as cool new buzzwords like "super robots" started to appear in the then-increasingly popular *8th Man* manga series, he quickly incorporated them into the dialogue he used. The result was "The Greatest Robot in History," which once again thrust Atom to the peak of robot manga popularity.

But as so typically happens in Tezuka's works, when I continued reading I found myself becoming more and more sympathetic to Pluto, who had originally seemed to be a cold, emotionless villain. In fact, I suddenly found myself identifying with this character to the point that I began to hope that somehow he wouldn't have to die.

Then one day Matsuda turned to me with very sad eyes and announced, "Pluto died in yesterday's issue of *Shonen*..."

I was thunderstruck and wondered what Osamu Tezuka had really been trying to say in this story.

"Atom was the only one left standing," Matsuda said, "so Tezuka must be saying that Atom's the strongest robot in history!"

Matsuda's confident interpretation of the story didn't seem to be exactly right to me, but I kept my mouth shut because I figured that the third-smartest kid in our class couldn't be wrong.

Forty years later, I finally came up with a counterinterpretation of the story. Naoki Urasawa and I were discussing our plans to remake "The Greatest Robot on Earth," and we were grappling with the unavoidable question of what Osamu Tezuka would have focused on if he were alive today. "War" immediately came to mind, but Tezuka's views on war were very complicated.

The answer to the question came from *Hyokkori Hyotanjima*, the aforementioned puppet series I was so enthralled with as a boy along with Atom. And it came to me as I was recently watching a play by one of the show's authors, Hisashi Inoue. Inoue has been showcasing both his old and new works on a frequent basis, so I was curious as to what might have happened to him. But while watching his play I understood. Inoue is sounding an alarm, for he fears that Japan may slide into another war in the near future. And his warning seems to match Osamu Tezuka's perspective on war.

Hisashi Inoue was born six years after Osamu Tezuka, but he comes from the same generation that survived the "burned-out rubble" of Japan's defeat in World War II. They are pacifists, but they hold no fanciful illusions. Their view of things would be as follows: Man goes to war. War is an undeniable consequence of our existence. But nothing good ever comes from war. Everyone loses. Tragedy befalls not only the soldiers who go to war, but also the people who are left behind. Freedoms are lost, our humanity is distorted. Mankind in all its foolishness will always pursue war, but it is something that we must avoid! Get it?!

"Osamu Tezuka wasn't saying anything about Atom being the strongest robot in history. On the contrary, I think he was trying to say that, having experienced battle, Atom was the first robot in history to understand the meaninglessness of war. That's what he was trying to say." And that's what my response to Matsuda is.

*"The Greatest Robot on Earth" originally appeared in *Shonen* under the title "The Greatest Robot in History."

The late Osamu Tezuka, a manga artist for whom I have the utmost respect, created the series *Astro Boy*. This timeless classic has been read by countless numbers of fans from when it was first created in the fifties to now. As a child, "The Greatest Robot on Earth" story arc from *Astro Boy* was the first manga I ever read that really moved me and inspired me to become a manga artist. With *Pluto* I've attempted to infuse that story with a fresh new spirit. I hope you enjoy it.

NAOKI URASAWA

Manga wouldn't exist without Osamu Tezuka. He is the Leonardo da Vinci, the Goethe, the Dostoevsky of the manga world. Naoki Urasawa and I have always felt that his achievements and work must not be allowed to fade away. Tezuka wrote that Atom, the main character of his most representative work *Astro Boy*, was born in 2003. This was the same year that we re-made "The Greatest Robot on Earth" story arc from the *Astro Boy* series. Who was Osamu Tezuka and what was his message? For those of you readers who are interested in *Pluto*, I highly recommend you read it alongside Tezuka's original work.

TAKASHI NAGASAKI

PLUTO: URASAWA × TEZUKA
VOLUME 8
VIZ SIGNATURE EDITION

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ASTRO BOY

Osamu Tezuka's iconic *Astro Boy* series was a truly groundbreaking work about a loveable boy robot that would pave the way for all manga and anime to follow. Tezuka created the manga in 1951 and in January of 1963 adapted it to become the first weekly animated TV series ever to be broadcast in Japan. In September of that same year, it became the first animated TV series from Japan to hit the airwaves in the United States. The series and its title character were originally known in Japan as *Tetsuwan Atom*, which translates to "mighty Atom" – or for the more literally minded, "iron-arm Atom" – but was released in the U.S. as *Astro Boy*. Decades later, in 2000, Dark Horse Comics brought the manga for the first time to English readers, also under the title *Astro Boy*.

Within the context of the story for this English edition of *Pluto: Urasawa × Tezuka*, the precocious boy robot will be referred to as "Atom" in the manner in which he has been known and loved in Japan for over fifty years. Elsewhere, such as in the end matter, the series will be referred to as *Astro Boy* as it has been known outside of Japan since 1963.